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ALARMING CIVIL WAR NEWS

Generalissimo Calls Hasty Conference Manchuria Drive Stepped Up

Shanghai, Dec. 23. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek presided over a hastily summoned conference at his residence in Nanking last night of top-ranking military leaders as a stream of alarming dispatches from the main civil war fronts poured into the capital.

Little has leaked out of what transpired at the conference but usually reliable Chinese quarters said that the Generalissimo urged greater efforts by all concerned to suppress the Communist rebellion.

Among those present at the discussion were General Chang Chih-chang, Director of the Generalissimo's Northwest Headquarters, General Ma Hsiung-kwei, Governor of Ninghsia province, General Hu Tsung-shan, commander in Shensi province and General Chen Tungkuan, deputy director of the Generalissimo's headquarters in Mukden.

Generals Hu and Ma had made the trip from Shan, capital of Shensi and Ninghsia city, respectively, especially for the meeting, which followed the receipt of disquieting reports from Manchuria, North Honan and Central China.

As Christmas approached the Reds in Manchuria stepped up

Shanghai Centre Of Drug Ring

Shanghai, Dec. 23. The disclosure that Shanghai is the centre of a nationwide ring of opium smugglers and traffickers has been made here.

According to official estimates, about 50,000 opium smokers are still evading the law and "smoking surreptitiously" in private residences.

A police spokesman today said that all opium addicts as yet not on their records will be given a week's grace until the end of the year to submit themselves to the police for examination and record.

The police believe that there is a considerable number of smugglers based at Kunming, provincial capital of Yunnan, who are operating a supply service to Shanghai.—Reuter.

Battle Of Adverts

Shanghai, Dec. 23. The city's newspaper war between the Newsprint Publishers Guild and two foreign-owned newspapers—the American Shanghai Evening Post and the British North China Daily News—today was fast developing into a "battle of paid ads."

Charging the China Press, which gets the largest newspaper allocation from the Guild—with failing to inform its readers with the "full facts on quotas," the Evening Post announced it was offering to place a half-page paid advertisement in the China Press stating the Post's case.

Publisher T. L. Tsong told the United Press he had accepted the advertisement—but was offering the Post also a half-page advertisement stating the China Press case.

It was understood that the China Press will bill the Evening Post CN\$9,000,000 for the space. If the Evening Post accepts the China Press copy it is expected the same will be charged.—United Press.

T. V. SOONG IN COLONY

Dr. T. V. Soong, Governor of Kwangtung, and Madame Soong, arrived in the Colony by plane from Canton yesterday afternoon. Close friends said they will be spending Christmas in Hong Kong.

ON OTHER PAGES

Page Two: Headmaster in Court.
Page Three: Ingenious Murder Verdict.
Page Four: Holiday Soccer: Schools Festival.

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LATE FERRY SERVICE FOR HOLIDAYS

Merry-makers will be glad to hear that extra ferries are being put on by the Star Ferry Co. during the Christmas holidays.

The ferry service (a 15-minute one) will be extended to 2.30 a.m. from Hong Kong, and 2.15 a.m. from Kowloon tomorrow; and to 1.30 a.m. and 1.15 a.m. respectively on Boxing Day.

"Red Dean" Subject Of Controversy

LONDON, DEC. 23. CONTROVERSY OVER THE POLITICAL OPINIONS OF DR. HEWLETT JOHNSON, BRITISH RELIGIOUS LEADER CALLED THE "RED DEAN" BECAUSE OF HIS SUPPORT OF COMMUNISM, IS STILL RAGING, A WEEK AFTER THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY HAD REPUDIATED HIS ACTION AND UTTERANCES.

Letters supporting and condemning the 73-year-old silver-haired dean, who on his return in October from a nine-week tour of eastern Europe, referred to the countries he had visited as "these splendid new worlds," have been appearing in the influential correspondence columns of the Times and Daily Telegraph.

The Bishop of Chichester, writing in the Times today on the effects abroad of Dr. Johnson's actions and words, said: "For the Dean of Canterbury, to propagate his opinions of the Soviet system without regard to the general Christian opinion and with great publicity in different parts of Europe, is to do disservice to the Christian cause."

Reports today also said that the Dean's book on Russia, "The Socialist Sixth of the World," has been attributed to the Archbishop of Canterbury on the title page of the Czech translation.—Reuter.

Monty To Report On Africa Base Plan

London, Dec. 23. Field Marshall Lord Montgomery will shortly submit a detailed report to the committee on regions of the African Continent, according to British reports.

Lord Montgomery, who returned last week from an extensive tour of Africa and Egypt,

NEW CONSTITUTION

Nanking Statement Expected Tomorrow

Nanking, Dec. 23. The Chinese Government Information Office said today that the Government will issue a statement on Christmas Day announcing officially the conclusion of the Kuomintang's 20-year-old political tutelage and enforcement of constitutional rule in China.

The statement probably will also announce the date of the convocation of the National Assembly to elect the first democratic president who will form a constitutional government.

Despite the delayed convocation of the National Assembly last Christmas, the constitution adopted last Christmas will be considered effective beginning the day after tomorrow. All Government policies and actions will be taken in conformity with the new constitution but certain of the civil rights guaranteed the people in the constitution will be withheld due to the existing state of rebellion.

The Government's emergency law for the treatment and punishment of rebels will be continued.

CHRISTMAS TRAGEDY

Frankfurt, Dec. 23. Two crack passenger trains jammed with Christmas travelers collided head on near Nuremberg today, and the German police said at least 37 persons were killed and more than 300 seriously injured, 98 seriously.

German police at the town, which is in the French occupation zone, said 37 bodies had already been removed from the twisted wreckage. Search parties, which included some French troops, feared four others might still be buried in the wreckage and a search for the additional casualties was continuing despite heavy rain.

The accident occurred when the Munich-Dortmund "Interzon" express and the fast Freiburg-Dortmund flyer smashed together.

No bodies of Allied persons were found.—United Press.

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OPIUM DUMPED IN SEA

A considerable quantity of confiscated opium was dumped into the sea on Monday by the Import and Export Department.

This was the third dumping of its kind this year.

Among the 1 and E officials who personally witnessed the dumping was the Secretary, Mr. R. A. Bates.

One And The Same Chap

LONDON, DEC. 23. GENERAL SIR WILLIAM SLIM, WHO LED THE 14TH ARMY IN BURMA, SAID IN A BROADCAST LAST NIGHT THAT THE GUNNER IN GREEN BATTLE DRESS WHO SLOGGED ON AGAINST THE JAPS ON QUARTER RATIONS AND THE MAN IN DUNGAREES TODAY WERE ONE AND THE SAME CHAP.

That chap would respond today to the same appeals that quickened him in the jungle.

"None of us doubted, nor do we doubt now, that this old country of ours and all she means in tolerance and freedom for us and for the world was worth fighting for," said General Slim.

"And if all that was worth fighting for then it is worth fighting for now."

"The real task now is to get unity and enthusiasm down to those with duller less wellpaid jobs. Let man see the bit further along the chain in which he is a link."

"It is at least as easy to do that in the workshop as in the jungle."—Reuter.

Mexico City, Dec. 23.

One was killed and 61 injured, six seriously, when two passenger trains collided head on at Esperanza, the halfway point on the Mexico City-Vera Cruz railway.—Associated Press.

No Jap Paper For Hong Kong

Tokyo, Dec. 23. Board of Trade officials have abandoned plans to export 1,200,000 pounds of high-grade newsprint to Hong Kong, India and southern Pacific regions due to a shortage of coal, pulp and chemicals.

The officials said that the plan was given up when the Economic Stabilization Board, in charge of allocating materials, refused the allotment of 1,000 tons of coal and other materials which were reserved for more essential reconstruction projects.—Central News.

Kowloon Dispute: New Move

The Po On County authorities have sent a representative to Hong Kong to take a census of the people living in the old walled Kowloon City.

Meanwhile, the affected residents yesterday forwarded a petition to President Chiang Kai-shek appealing to him to take steps to settle the Kowloon City problem.

Magistrate W. A. Blair-Kerr's eviction order against some 70 Kowloon City residents, summoned for unlawfully occupying Crown Land, was officially conveyed to the people concerned on Monday.

Austerity Xmas In Northern Port

Shanghai, Dec. 23. The high cost of living plus orders to the police to enforce the austerity regulations are expected to result in a less lavish Christmas in Shanghai.

The city police today rejected petitions of local ballrooms, bars, restaurants and hotels for permission to remain open to 1 a.m.—two hours past the 11 p.m. regular closing time, and also warned night spots that the austerity regulations remain effective—Christmas or no Christmas.

The police announced that regulars will be joined by members of the junior police, sending inspectors parties around. In addition to enforcing closing hours the police also were

instructed to see that no patron is charged more than CN\$400, 000—about US\$0.75 for a Christmas dinner.

While most Yule parties will be held in private homes and private clubs the increased costs will be felt all the way round. Here are a few examples: (In U.S. dollars): trees, \$3 to \$5; turkey meat, 70 cent per pound; fruit cake, \$1.50 to \$5; milk, 50¢; \$500 for the lowest grade up to \$1,000 for a good grade; nylon hose, \$3 to \$4; shoes, \$7 shirts, \$3 upwards; ties, \$3 upwards; socks, \$3 upwards; chocolate candy, \$2.50 per pound.

Persons playing Santa Claus will further be stumped by a lack of novel imported toys. Import regulations prohibit toys—even those coming in Christmas parcels from abroad.—United Press.

Tokyo, Dec. 23. A big Japanese political upheaval in mid-January, following reports of a hoarded goods scandal, was predicted by Mr. Hiroshi Ashida, Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and President of the Democratic Party.

The first report of the Hoarded Goods Committee, published on Saturday, blamed all the Japanese governments since the surrender in 1945 for the scandal. Mr. Ashida, confirming the allegations that many prominent politicians were implicated, said that the committee was particularly active and their investigations would result in some political parties becoming involved, thus causing political changes.—Reuter.

Spectacular Surge On Gold Market

Gold's upswing yesterday was as spectacular as its landslide on Monday.

Opening at \$274 a tael it climbed almost non-stop ten points to \$283.75, closing slightly easier at \$282.

Most operators were taken by surprise and were uncertain which way to operate.

Plastics opened at \$11.40 a 100. After easing to \$11.35 the rate climbed to \$11.60, and closed at \$11.57 1/2.

Chinese National Currency was quoted nominal at 33 1/2 cts for futures and 42 cts for spot (for CN\$10,000).

U.S. Dollars Recover

U.S. dollars, like gold, recovered from the previous day's setback, and at the close of the market yesterday were back to \$4.85 1/2, though the underdone continued weak.

Sterling was stronger at \$19.50, while Australian pounds were unchanged at \$12.61 1/2.

Toots and NEI Guilders were quoted on the exchange at \$27.40 and \$29.70 a 100 respectively.

In Shanghai, yesterday (Reuter) the open market rate for the U.S. dollar was CN\$21,000 (buyers) and CN\$21,000 (sellers).

For Sterling CN\$267,000 (buyers) and CN\$273,000 (sellers).

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Feng "Honoured" By Wallace Comparison

New York, Dec. 23. General Feng Yu-hsiang, known as the Christian General of China, said today that he felt "honour-bound to refuse to recognise 'Generalissimo' Chiang Kai-shek's personal order for him to return to China this month."

The General has been critical of the Chiang administration. At a news conference Feng issued a statement in which he said he had been warned that "my outspoken criticism of the criminal policies of civil war and dictatorship of the Nanking Government may result in an attempt to silence me by recalling me to China."

"If Chiang's order is for that purpose, I would like to have it honestly and openly stated," Feng said. The Generalissimo's order contradicted instructions he had received from Premier Chang Chun, Chairman of the Executive Yuan, to continue investigating American conservation projects for another year.

"Typical"

"Such an action by an individual which clearly violated established Government procedures is typical of a dictatorship and I feel honour-bound to refuse to recognise it."

The General said an attack on him in Congress by Representative Walter Judd, Minnesota Republican, and the order for his recall "had a too obvious connection to need any elaboration," adding that Judd's likening of him to former Vice-President

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CLAIMS ON BANK DEPOSITS

Nanking, Dec. 23.

The Legislative Yuan today approved regulations for settlement of claims on pre-war bank deposits, ordering payment of CN\$1,703,462 for each Chinese dollar deposited on Aug. 14, 1937 and 700,000 Chinese dollars for each one deposited on Dec. 9, 1941.—Associated Press.

The Weather

The anti-cyclone is weakening and moving eastward. It now extends from West China to South Japan. Pressure remains low to the north-west.

The typhoon appears to be shifted about 300 miles north-north-east of Palau moving north-west.

Forecast: Moderate north-east winds with clearing skies during day, rather milder.

Yesterday's weather: Mainly clear, light breeze, 64-74 deg. F.

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- Dressing Table Sets
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- Hundred other things that women appreciate.

GRAND SALE OF THE SEASON

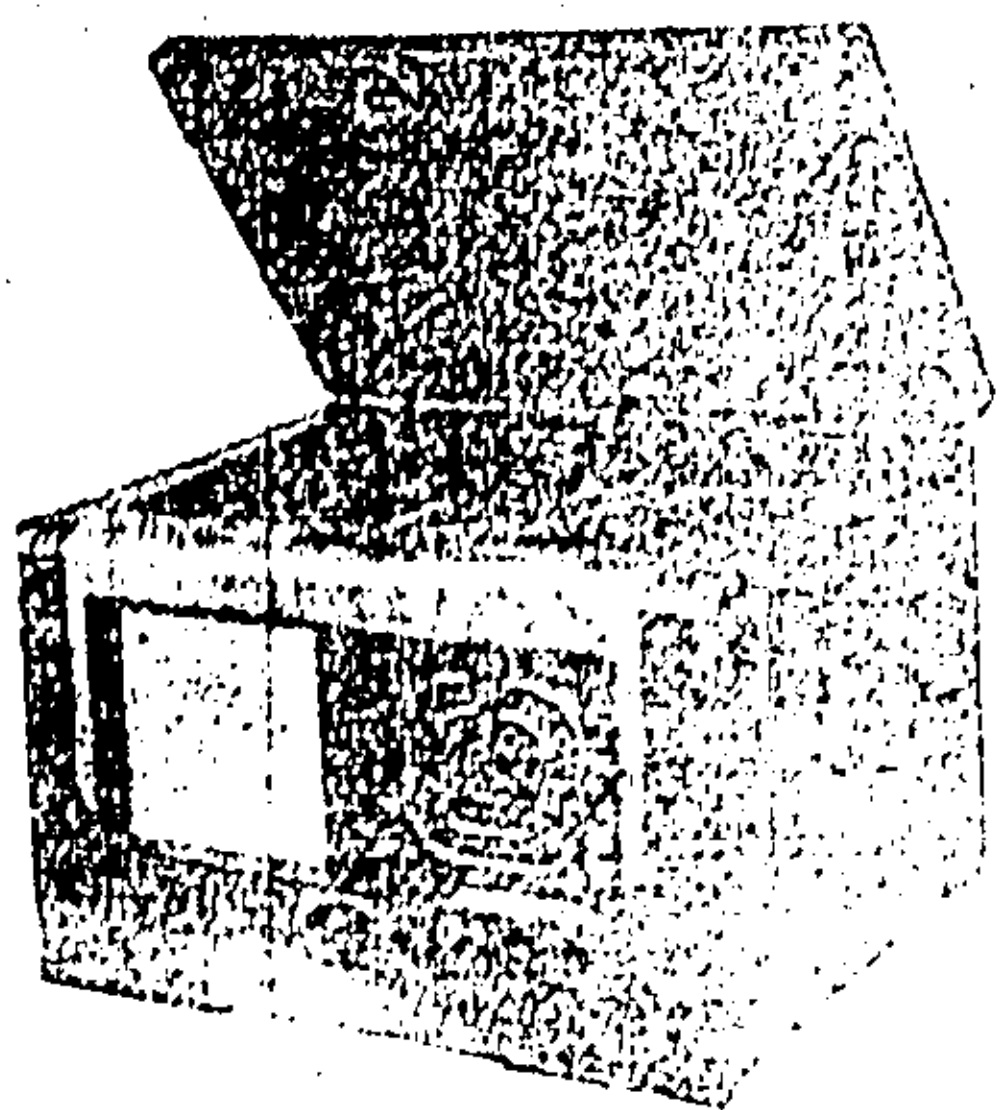
is Still on

KEENSEN Co. CHINA BUILDING
VANCO Co. 33 QUEEN'S ROAD, C.
JITSING Co. 31A QUEEN'S ROAD, C.

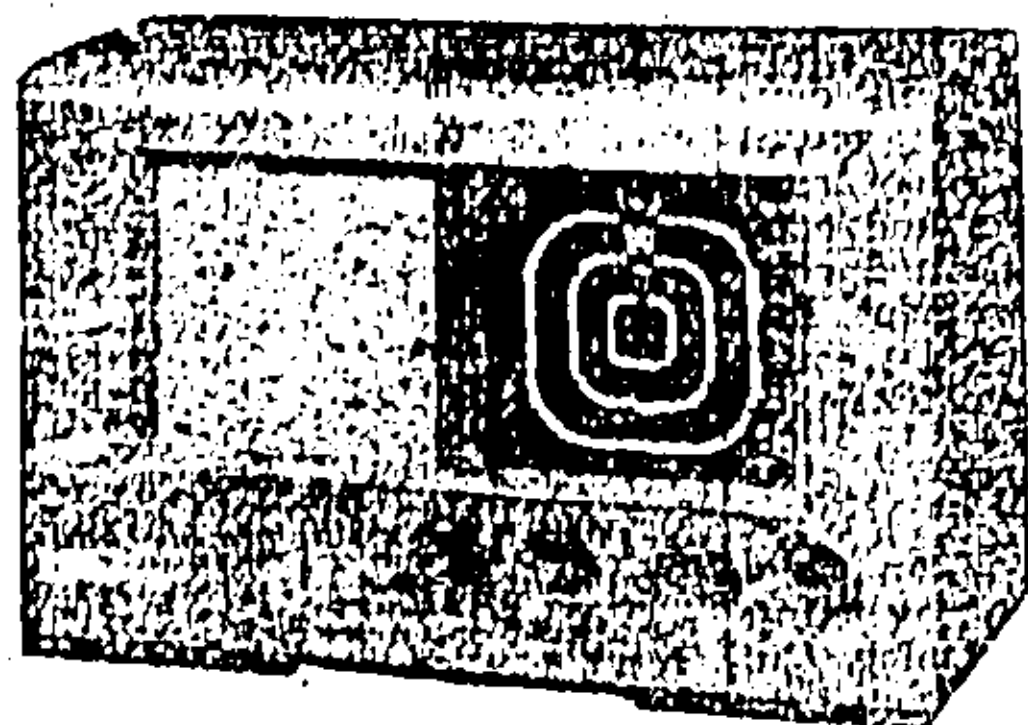
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Headmaster On Trial

GIRL'S STORY OF PICNICS

Further evidence was heard by Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday in the case in which Leung Ngai-chi (36), headmaster, and Leung Mong (32) clerk, of the Yeung Tak Middle School are charged with conspiracy to falsify the accounts of the school.

First defendant is further charged on six counts of larceny of school funds. Mr. P. J. Griffiths is appearing for the defendants, while Mr. A. J. Clifford, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting.

Miss Mau Fung-yuen, daughter

of complainant (Mau Mak-on) gave evidence in support of one of the Crown's allegations that defendants charged against the school's funds payment for picnics which were actually made by the students themselves.

School Picnic

She declared that the school went for an outing at Diamond Hill. They walked there and back, she said, and at Diamond Hill she was given a couple of pieces of bread. The students all brought their own bread. No refreshments were provided by the school asserted witness.

Referring to another picnic to 11-mile Beach, Miss Mau said a lorry was used as transport. The fares on both trips were paid by the students themselves, as was the cost of refreshments. She herself was given two slices of bread by the first defendant. Hearing will be resumed today.

BOX-HOLDERS WARNED

The attention of all box holders is drawn by the Postmaster-General to the fact that the use of boxes allotted to them without first securing permission from him, and that failure to abide by this rule will result in automatic cancellation of the boxes (or) for such improper purpose.

The Postmaster-General advises box holders that they may not transfer, sublet and/or in any way allow the use of boxes allotted to them without first securing permission from him, and that failure to abide by this rule will result in automatic cancellation of the boxes (or) for such improper purpose.

The Yellow Dragon Is Out Again

As the Acting Principal of Queen's College, Mr. N. Williamson, says in an introduction, "The Yellow Dragon breathes yet." An illustrated number, with the familiar artistic cover, and some seventy pages of varied material in English and Chinese, has appeared. This, the first of volume forty-three, comes after a lapse of over six years.

Queen's College now fills every corner of the Old Japanese School in Kennedy Road with a necessarily limited student body of over 250 and an academic staff of sixteen, with courses leading to both Hong Kong University and London Matriculations.

Together with many students' contributions in which the left motif in the rigours of the Occupation, are of special interest three staff articles: a reminiscence documentation by Mr. Crook, headmaster from 1925 to 1929; a poignant testimony to "Those who Died," by Mr. F.K. Chan; and a masterly exposition of "Tones in Cantonese" by that well-known authority, Mr. Leung Ping Hin.

Mickey Clarke Leaving

When the "Strathnaver" sails for the United Kingdom today she will be taking away a hockey player who has figured prominently in numerous matches in Hong Kong during the past year.

The player, in question, is charming Sergeant (Miss) Mickey Clarke, A.T.S., who is proceeding home after two years in the Far East.

"Mickey," as she is popularly called, arrived in Hong Kong from Japan about a year ago. Within that period she has become quite a prominent figure in the local sporting world.

During the six years she has been with the A.T.S., Mickey has seen service in India, various places in the South-East Command, Australia, Japan and Hong Kong. Wherever she was posted, Miss Clarke always took every opportunity to indulge in her favourite sport—hockey.

C-IN-C GOING SOUTH

Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet, is leaving on January 6 for Singapore in his flagship, HMS "London."

"London" will arrive in Singapore on January 11 and leave for Hong Kong five days later, arriving here on January 21.

In Singapore, "London" will go into dock to have her bottom scraped.



While there was no hint that any further collapse was probable in Victoria Street, where a girl was crushed to death and others injured when three verandahs crashed on Monday, the authorities evidently are taking no chances. This "China Mail" photo shows the buildings buttressed by a veritable forest of scaffolding.

KOWLOON COURT GETS A THOROUGH FACIAL

There has been a vast improvement in the appearance of both Courts in Kowloon in the last few days with the completion of a new dais for the First Magistrate, docks (complete with brass rails) for the prisoners, new tables for prosecuting and defence counsel, and pews for the Press.

In place of the makeshift barriers there are now nicely varnished rails in both Courts for the public gallery.

The two "collapseable" docks of Oregon pine, have given way to sturdy regular "pre-war" pattern ones with burnished brass rails. Inside each dock is an iron gate for the passage leading down to the cells.

Prosecutors and defence counsel used to gather around old dining-tables which, oftentimes, threatened to take a rest on the floor. These are now replaced by heavy teak tables which can easily withstand the soundings of a dozen solicitors' fists.

Mr. W. H. Latimer now has his chair and desk on a dais and not on the floor as before. His witnesses, too, will give evidence in the witness stand, and not behind a cast-iron desk behind the Court interpreter.

With these changes have also disappeared the last vestiges of the Japanese occupation and the heinous use to which Kowloon Magistrate's was put by the Japanese Gendarmes.

Rotary's Xmas Lunch

Hong Kong Rotary held its Christmas lunch at the Hong Kong Hotel Roof Garden yesterday.

A copy of "Hong Kong Retarian 1946," an attractive publication, was distributed to each Rotarian.

After luncheon entertainment was provided by Rotarian C. F. Stiles who gave a talk on "Random Christmas Recollections"—thoughts and events at Yuletide since boyhood days, and the proceedings were rounded off with a vote of thanks to the speaker by Rotarian Dr. Montgomery who added some of his Christmas reminiscences.

The President, Dr. F. I. Tsung, announced that arrangements had been made with the Hotel Management to hold the Club's weekly meetings on the Roof Garden. It was like going back to the good old days, he said.

HMS Vengeance In Port

The aircraft carrier "Vengeance" (Commander P. J. Knowling), arrived in port yesterday morning from Singapore on a routine visit. Her captain is Capt. J.H.F. Crombie, DSO.

Steaming into the harbour, HMS "Vengeance" saluted the Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, with 15 guns. A return salute of seven guns was fired by the C-in-C's flagship HMS "London."

"Vengeance" will be returning to Singapore in the first part of next month.

Reminders

Today

United Services Recreation Club Children's Xmas Party, Kowloon, 2-6 p.m.

Chinese painting & calligraphy exhibition, St. Francis Hotel, Queen's Road, Central.

St. John's Cathedral Service (Nine Lessons & Carols), 8.30 p.m.

St. John's Cathedral Midnight Eucharist (Sung), 11.30 p.m.

Christ Church Xmas Eve Carol in Purl & Midnight Epiphany, 11.30 p.m.

Midnight Mass, in all Catholic Churches.

Coming Events

DECEMBER 27

Baptist Church Xmas Party, 7.30 p.m.
Zetland Hall Trustees' "At Home," King's Bldg., Top Floor, 6-8 p.m.

Last Vestige Of Occupation

Representatives of the Press now have "homes" of their own instead of having to scrounge for seats around the prosecution tables.

Personalia

Among the passengers who left for Manila by CPA on Monday were Messrs. M.J.M. Hamotin, L.G. Paralta, Jon Quin Lao, Vy Lian Tat, Cyril Chen, and Cui Bai An.

Miss Haper Lamberton and Messrs. J. G. Dailey, Ma Chok-ling, Wong Sui-fung and Tai Klok Sin, left for Bangkok on Monday by CPA plane.

Peninsula Hotel arrivals—Mrs. A. Chase, John F. Purcell, Capt. and Mrs. K.W. Smith, D. Ravich and A.M.A. Hamid.

Peninsula departures—Miss B. Wallace, Earl Carroll, A.J. de Joux, G.H. Jolly, Miss M.H. Lamberton, J.G. Dailey and G.R. Goodyear.

KOWLOON LAND SALE

Kowloon Inland Lot No. 6066 at Sung Wong Toi Road, Ma Tau Kok, Kowloon, with an area of about 50,000 sq. ft. will be sold by Public Auction at the Offices of the Public Works Department on Monday, Dec. 29, at 3 p.m. The annual rental is \$1,836 and the upset price is \$125,000.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands and Surveys, Lower Albert Road.



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"All the whiskers are looking for something from this 'whisker' earth."—Whiskers Club.

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OVER-TIME LOVIN' and LAUGHIN' IN WARNERS OVERWHELMING ALL-OUT HEART-HAPPY SHOW!!
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DENNIS MORGAN
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MARTHA VICKERS
ANGELA GREENE
DONALD WOOD
CARMEN CAVALLARO
AND ORCHESTRA
DIRECTED BY DAVID BUTLER
SWING AND SWANSON Tunes!!
A GAL IN CALICO - OH, BUT I DO THROUGH A THOUSAND DREAMS
A SOLID CHIEF OF THE COIN SOUTH
I HAPPIED TO VISIT DOWN FIRST STREET
SCREEN PLAY BY FRANK CRANE, JAMES CRICHTON, JOHNSTON & LYNN STANLEY'S PRODUCTION BY LEO J. COUGHLIN
ADAPTED FROM THE PLAY BY HENRIK IBSEN

OPENS TO-MORROW
CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA

XMAS SHOPPING HOURS
DAIRY FARM BRANCHES

WILL BE
CLOSED ALL DAY
ON
XMAS DAY 25th DECEMBER
BUT WILL OPEN USUAL SUNDAY HOURS
ON
BOXING DAY, 26th DECEMBER

The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.

"THE FOOD SPECIALISTS"

Special



CHRISTMAS EVE
CHRISTMAS DAY
NEW YEAR'S EVE
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Tiffins & Dinners

AT THE
GLOUCESTER LOUNGE
WINDSOR HOUSE
DAIRY FARM RESTAURANTS
OPEN AS USUAL DURING THE HOLIDAYS

HARRIMAN REALTY CO., LTD.

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"COME TO US FOR ADVICE"

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Christmas Hampers

No. 1 \$40.00
1 Bottle Angostura Bitters (small)
1 " Quart Graves
1 " Fonseca's Tawny Port
1 " Burnett's London Dry Gin

No. 2 \$66.00
1 Bottle Dewar's Victoria Vat Whisky
1 " Burdon's 10 Years' Old Brandy
1 " Burnett's London Dry Gin
1 " Sparkling Wine (Portuguese Champagne)

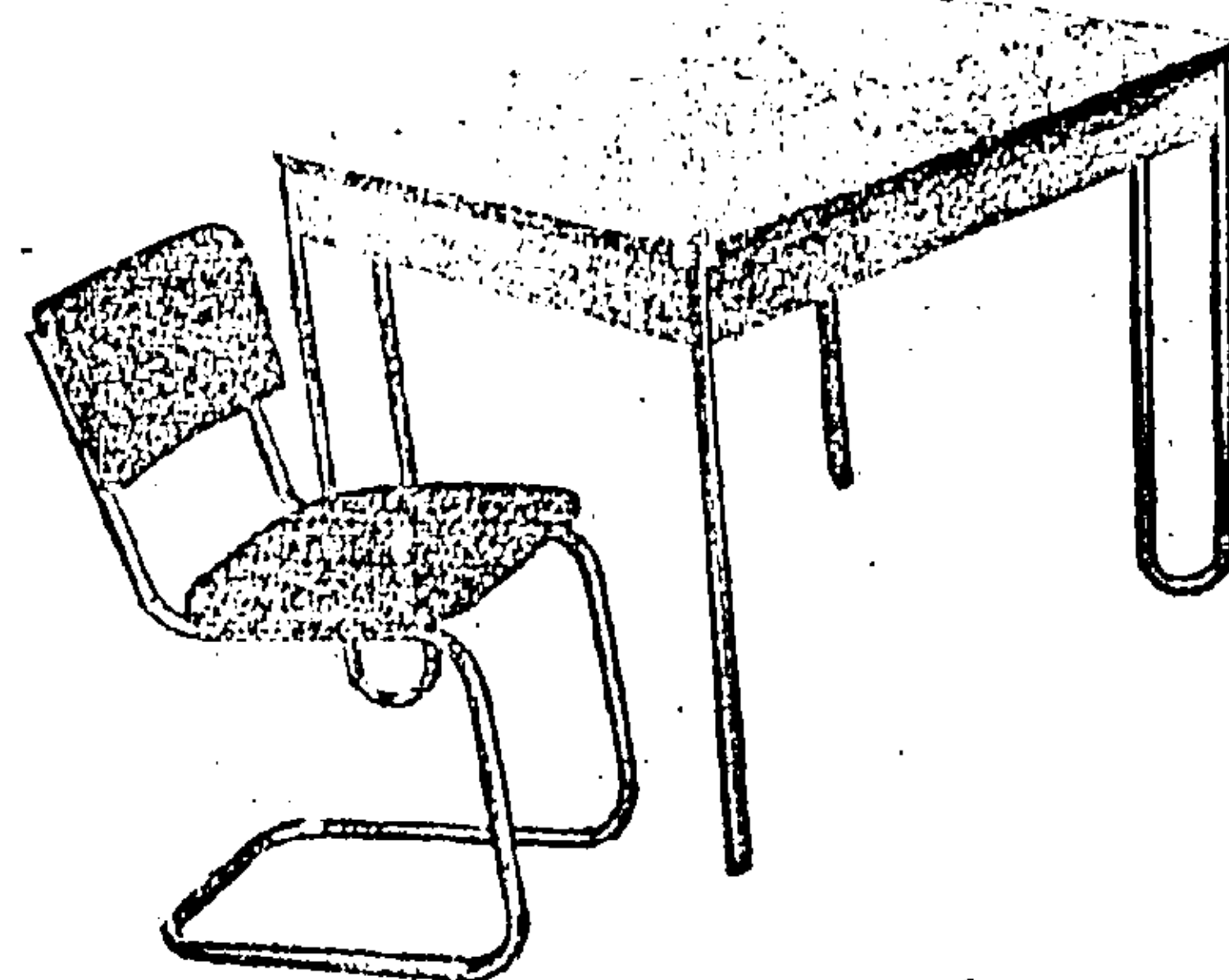
No. 3 \$90.00
1 Bottle Dewar's Victoria Vat Whisky
1 " Watson's F. Fine Old Brown Brandy
1 " Burnett's London Dry Gin
1 " Champagne (Rothschild)



A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

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CHROME CHAIRS & EXTENSION TABLES
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LONDON DRY
and
WHITE SATIN
Made in London

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Clubs, Hotels & Wine Stores

Agents: A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

VERDICT OF MURDER BY CORONER'S JURY Stabbing Of Small Boy In Kowloon

The murder of a four-year-old boy at Canton Road at 10.30 p.m. on Oct. 12 by one of three armed men was recalled before Mr. W. H. Latimer by Det. Sub-Inspector J. M. Forrest yesterday when an inquest was conducted. A verdict of "Murder by some person or persons unknown," was returned.

Rubber Company Meetings

The ordinary general meetings of Ralph Rubber & Tapioca Estate, Ltd.; Shanghai-Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd.; Sun Mang-gis Rubber Co., Ltd.; Tebong Rubber Estate, Ltd.; Batu Anam (Johore) Rubber Estates, Ltd.; Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ltd.; Anglo Java Estates, Ltd.; Java Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Estates, Ltd.; Kroeckow Java Plantations, Ltd.; and Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ltd., were held at St. George's Building yesterday, when Mr. W. A. Welch was in the Chair.

The working account for the Ralph Rubber & Tapioca Estate, Ltd., for the period from January 1st, 1946 to March 31st, 1947 showed a loss of HK\$17,451.01.

The working account for the Shanghai-Malay Rubber Estates, Ltd., showed a profit of HK\$21,295.26.

The Manggis Rubber Co., Ltd., revealed a loss of HK\$27,042.55.

The Tebong Rubber Estate, Ltd., registered a profit of HK\$126,144.97.

The Batu Anam (Johore) Rubber Estates, Ltd., showed a profit of HK\$16,572.91.

The Anglo-Dutch (Java) Plantations, Ltd.; Meeting adjourned and no accounts rendered.

The Anglo Java Estates, Ltd.; Meeting adjourned and no accounts rendered.

The Java Consolidated Rubber & Coffee Estates, Ltd.; Meeting adjourned and no accounts rendered.

Kroeckow Java Plantations, Ltd.; No accounts rendered and meeting adjourned.

Ziangbe Rubber Co., Ltd.; Meeting adjourned and no accounts rendered.

War Memorial Fund

Donations received yesterday for the Hong Kong War Memorial Fund were:—

Mr. Ko Ho Ning \$1,000.00
Mr. H. Scott \$500.00 Committee Members, Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club:—

(Mrs. M.K. Lo \$50, Mrs. Li Tze Fong \$50, Mrs. Edna Ho \$50, Mrs. Lambert Kwok \$50, Mrs. Li Shu Pui \$50, Miss Lucy Liang \$30, Mrs. May Ho \$20, Mrs. Alice Kwok \$20, Mrs. Sydney Ng Quinn \$20, Mrs. Y. K. Chow \$20, Mrs. F. I. Tseung \$20, Mrs. Wong Seng Tseung \$20, Mrs. Ho Wing \$20, Mrs. Florence Li \$20, Mrs. Violet Chan \$20, Mrs. Chan Fung Chau \$20, Mrs. Kenneth Roberts \$10) \$490.00

Hong Kong Chinese Women's Club \$300.00, Prof. and Mrs. Gordon King \$250.00, The Chinese Manufacturers Union \$200.00, Mr. & Mrs. G. Volckaert \$100.00, General Chamber of Commerce & Industry of the Tung Kung District \$100.00, Eastern Trading Co., Ltd., \$100.00, In Memory of R. Edwards and J.R.M. Smith From Anonymous \$100.00, Mr. N.R. Ramsey \$100.00, Dr. & Mrs. G.E. Yeoh \$50.00, Mr. & Mrs. J.F. Follett \$50.00, Mr. L. Goldman \$50.00, Mr. & Mrs. L.E. Gutierrez \$25.00, Leung Yew Chung \$20.00, Mr. Henry Yew \$10.00, Anonymous \$10.00, \$3,465.00, Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce Contribution \$3,465.00, Received to December 22nd, 1947, \$3,480.00 Grand Total: \$6,845.00.

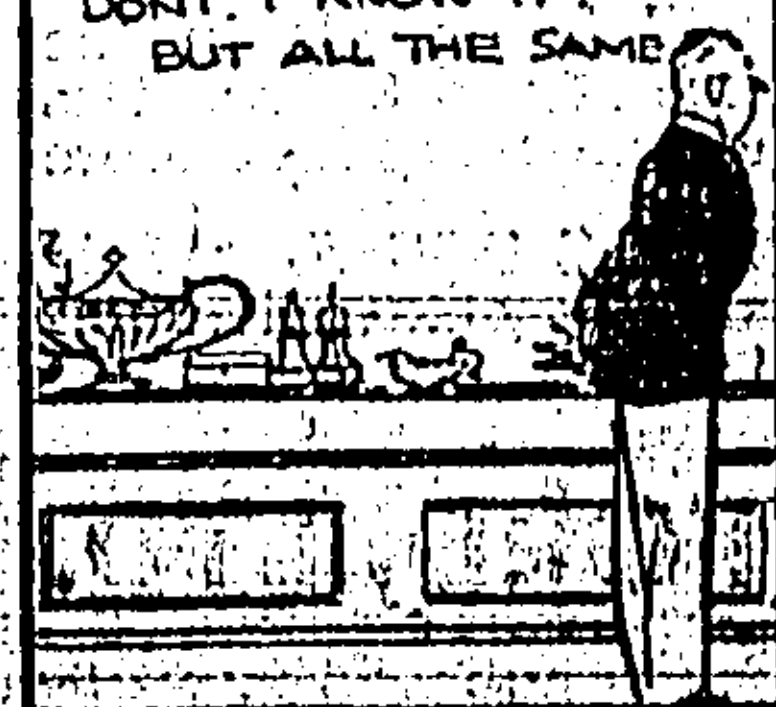
NOTICES: Memorial Service—No. 2 (Scottish) Company, No. 2 (Scottish) Company: A Memorial Service will be held at the Blenheim Cemetery on Sunday, Dec. 29, 1947, at 11.15 a.m. All Members and ex-Members are invited to attend. Transport will leave Queen's Pier at 11.15 a.m. Those requiring accommodation should advise Mr. E. J. Macfarlane, c/o Hong Kong Electric Co., Ltd.

No. 3 Company Re-union. The Company Commander hopes that all ranks No. 3 Company will be present at a Company meeting to be held in the Canton Volunteer Headquarters at 1800 hours on Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Art Exhibition. There will be an art exhibition held at the premises of the Hong Kong Volunteer Chinese Club, Room No. 33 Bank of Canton Building, 2nd floor—between Dec. 24 and 29, 1947—both days inclusive. The object of the exhibition, which will be open from 6.00-9.00 hours daily, is to raise funds for the Hong Kong War Memorial Fund. Admission will be free.

Sergeants' Mess. The President and Members of the Sergeants' Mess will be "At Home" to their friends on Christmas Day from 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. as usual. At noon a Roll of Honour will be unveiled by the President.

POP - - - - -



Parcels For Britain

A total of 1,200 gift food parcels, weighing 10,500 lbs. net, are being sent to Britain by S.S. "Strathnaver."

Thanks to the courtesy of the Sea Transport Officer, Commander Bradley, this shipment is free of freight charges.

Since the beginning of the "Food Parcels to Britain" campaign by the Ladies Committee, three shipments of gift food, weighing approximately 25 tons net, have been despatched to Britain.

The first two shipments are due to arrive in Britain on Jan. 6 and 7, respectively.

Greetings For The Merchant Navy

The following messages from the Minister of Transport and the Secretary of State for the Colonies to members of the Merchant Navy from the Colonial Empire have been received in Hong Kong.

From the Minister of Transport: "An Minister of Transport, I send cordial greetings at this season to all ships and crews overseas. My best wishes go, too, to all officers and men whose duty on British merchant ships keep them from home at this time of traditional reunion. They will, I am sure, enjoy good cheer and company, and be among very real friends, and I am deeply grateful to all who have made this possible. A happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to you all."

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies: "In associating myself with the message from Ministry of Transport, I send my very warm greetings and good wishes for Christmas and New Year to members of the Merchant Navy from the Colonial Empire. I also express high appreciation of the good work which is being done for the welfare of merchant seamen at many Colonial Ports."

FOOD PARCELS FUND

The following is a list of the Donations received up to 22nd December, which have not yet been acknowledged: National Aviation Corp. \$20, Mrs. Farrow \$12, Bermuda Park 10, Bermuda Park 20, Mr. Hooser 20, Yu Sui Cheong 30, Mar Yuen Ru 30, Sir Robert Kotewall 25, \$167, total \$22,799.75.

RADIO

ZHW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.15, 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 9.52 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.15 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m. H.K.T.

12.15 p.m.—Studio: Morning Prayer.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.

12.52 p.m.—Light Variety.

1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.

1.15 p.m.—Student Songs.

1.30 p.m.—Studio: Piano Quintet from the C. minor Rhapsody by Chopin (by Courtesy of the Commander-in-Chief, British Pacific Fleet).

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—Studio: Children's Half Hour Relay from London of Charles Dickens' "Christmas Carol."

6.30 p.m.—Studio: Anniversary Half Hour presented by Monica Jack.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.

7.15 p.m.—Studio: Emilio Salgari, Biographical Sketch with Hermie Milane at the Piano.

7.30 p.m.—Studio: "I bring you Music" Classical Request Programme presented by Stefan Glover.

8.30 p.m.—Studio: Carols.

8.50 p.m.—Frederick Hippmann and His Orchestra.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.

9.10 p.m.—Weather Report.

9.15 p.m.—Favourite Celebrity Artistes.

9.30 p.m.—B.B.C. Transcription Service: "Beau Geste" by P.C. Wren, Episode 2—"Three Recruits for the Legion."

10.00 p.m.—Studio: "Poet's Pub"—Jolly and the Ivy.

10.15 p.m.—Christmas Eve "Cabaret" and Dance Music.

11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

GIFTS SUGGESTIONS FROM



GLASSWARE DEPT.

Lager Jugs and Glasses
Honey Jars,
Fruit Bowls,
Vases, Candle Sockets.

WINE & SPIRIT DEPT.

Xmas Hampers

from \$22.00 to \$13.00

FURNITURE DEPT.

Coloured Table Sets, Rugs,
Card Tables, Coloured Towels,
Linen sets, Table Cloths.

CONFECTIONERY DEPT.

Neilson's Chocolates
Xmas Stockings
Toys
Fancy Biscuits.

TOBACCO DEPT.

Cigarette Lighters,
Tobacco Pouches,
Pipes,
Cigarettes (Xmas Pack)

GROCERY DEPT.

Xmas Hampers

Mince meat, Xmas Puddings,
Dates, Figs, Mince pies, Nuts, etc.
\$34.00 each.

BUSINESS HOURS

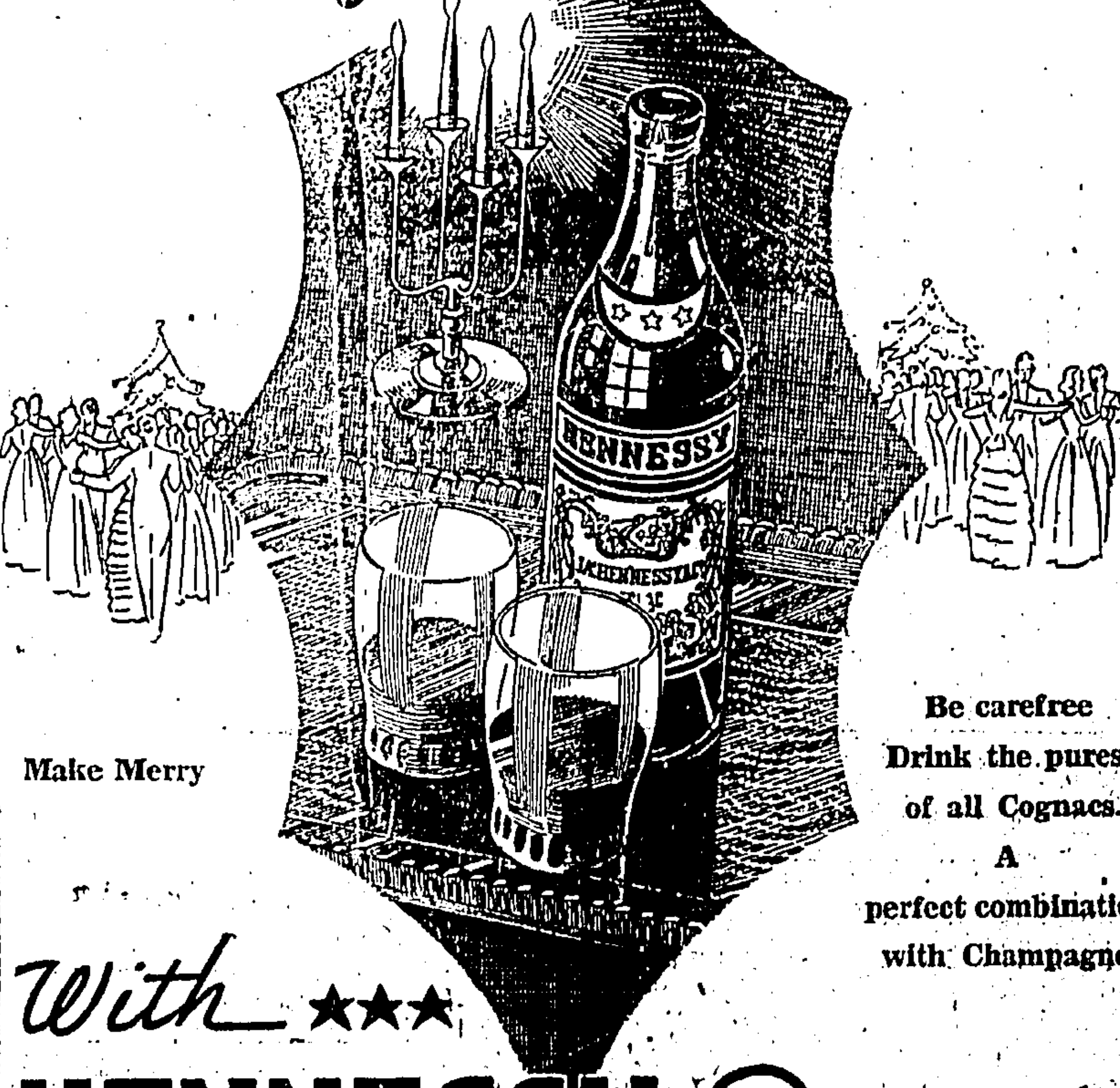
TO-DAY OPEN FROM 9.00 A.M. TO 7.00 P.M.

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Exchange Building
Kowloon Branch

Telephone: 28151
Telephone: 59822
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Make Merry
with
HENNESSY Brandy
L. RONDON CO (H.K.) LTD.

POP - - - - -

Cut-lery!

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

20 WORDS \$2 FOR ONE
INSERTION PREPAID. \$1
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL
INSERTION. ADDITIONAL
WORDS 10 CTS PER WORD
PER INSERTION.

\$2

Replies are awaiting at our
office for Box Nos: 308, 310,
312, 345, 346, 347, 348.

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YOU have heard of "Bond
Street W.L.?"

DUPLICATING SERVICE. All
classes of Duplicating work done
accurately and quickly. Mod-
erate Charges. NIAGARA
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floor, Chater Road, Tel. 26774.

NO OTHER GIFT will be more
appreciated by babies and
mothers than "EATCO" rubber
diapers. Obtainable from all
leading stores.

NEW Winter Suits. Style and
workmanship guaranteed to your
satisfaction. Selected range of
English materials. Telephone
21366 for tailor to call King's
(Ah Yau) Tailor, 4, D'Agulhar
Street, 1st Floor.

FOR YOUR BREAKFAST,
Tiffin, Afternoon Tea & Dinner.
You are welcome. Prompt Ser-
vice. Airy and Quiet. Try
Cafe de Luxe, China Emporium
Mezzanine Floor. Tel. 26428.

PREMISES TO LET

70,000 square feet of godown
space available Hong Kong side.
Suitable for storage of bulk
cargoes. Access to road and
deep water and lighter berths.
Reply Box No. 389 "China
Mail".

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SHROFFS required by old est-
ablished international Com-
pany for Metals, Dyes, Chemicals, Dry
Batteries, Textiles. Excellent
prospects experienced man. Con-
fidential applications to Box 338
"China Mail".

FOR SALE

RACEWEIGHT BINOCULARS:
"Zeiss". Large-sized "light-
admitting" eyepieces enhances
night observation and instant
spotting. "Crystal-
clear" anti-fogging lens. Like
new. New Case \$130. Phone
57697 (8-10 a.m.) (5-8 p.m.)

TIENTSIN CARPET, beautiful
design, blue background, 8 x 9,
almost new. Will sell cheap.
Inspection any hour daytime.
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TOYS AND GAMES at rea-
sonable prices. Good variety.
BUY NOW to avoid the
CHRISTMAS RUSH. THE
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MODEL just arrived. Lowest
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Service guaranteed. Tel. 27582.
Universal Typewriter Co., 22
Der Voeux Road, C., 1st floor.

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and Appraisers.
Pedder Building.
Telephone No. 20224.

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HONGKONG

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• RELIGIOUS MUSIC

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Vine Grain Developing, Printing
and Enlarging for your film.
23, QUEEN'S RD., C. TEL. 27234
OPPOSITE QUEEN'S THEATRE

HONG KONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED

NOTICE TO MONTHLY TICKET HOLDERS

January Tickets will be on
sale at The Company's Traffic
Office on and after December
25th.

The Old Ticket must be re-
turned when applying for a
RENEWAL.

Passengers not in possession
of Monthly Tickets can obtain
them at The Company's Traffic
Office, Canal Road East, on and
after December 29th.

V. WALKER,
Acting General Manager.

Hongkong, 22nd Dec., 1947.

NOTICE

The attention of all box
holders is drawn to the last
paragraph on page 40 of the
Hong Kong Post Office Guide
(1935) which reads as follows:

"A private box may not be
rented in a fictitious name, or
for an improper purpose. The
Postmaster General may re-
fuse to let or relet a box to
any person without assigning
any reason for such refusal."

The Postmaster General Ad-
vises box holders that they may
not transfer, sublet or in any
way allow the use of boxes
allotted to them without first
securing permission from him,
and that failure to abide by this
rule will result in automatic
cancellation of the box (es) used
for such improper purposes.

C. G. M. MORRISON,
Acting Postmaster General.

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS.

Dry Cleaning of Military Uniforms

Tenders will shortly be invited
for the dry cleaning of Khaki
Battle Dress and Great Coats.

Firms wishing to be placed on
the list of tenderers should make
their application in writing to
C.R.A.O.C., HQ Land Forces,
Hong Kong, stating where their
actual dry-cleaning plant is
situated.

Applications must be in by
3rd January, 1948.

Only principals of firms with
modern equipment need apply.

R.H.A.P. FINNEY,
Lt. Col.
Commander, Royal Army
Ordnance Corps.

Beten's Beauty Salons

You can trust your personal
Beauty Problems — your Per-
manent Waves, Shampoo, Sets,
Tinting, Facials, Manicure,
Pedicure to Beten's expert
operators (1st floor) above
Lane Crawford's. Tel. 83161.

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE A SHIP'S NAME

We, Standard-Vacuum Oil Com-
pany of Hongkong & Shanghai
Bank Building hereby give notice
that in consequence of instruc-
tions received from the owners,
we have applied to the Minister
of Transport, under Section 47
of the Merchant Shipping Act
1891, in respect of the British
ship "Mei Shan" of HONG
KONG REGISTRY Official
Number 172801 Gross tonnage
1164.68 tons Register tonnage
603.10 tons, heretofore owned by
Oriental Trade & Transport
Company Limited for permission
to change her name to STANVAT
312 and to have her registered
in the new name at the Port of
HONG KONG as owned by
Oriental Trade & Transport Co.
Ltd.

Any objection to the proposed
change of name must be sent to
the REGISTRAR OF SHIP-
PING at HONG KONG with in
SEVEN days from the ap-
pearance of this advertisement.
Dated at HONG KONG the 22nd
day of December 1947.

Attorney for the Owners
STANDARD-VACUUM OIL
COMPANY

R. R. PEARSON
MANAGER

NOTICE

UNRRA CLOSURE

ALL CONCERNED ARE
HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT
FROM 1st JANUARY, 1948,
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES
INCURRED BY UNRRA KOW-
LOON SUPPLY OFFICE FOR
HANDLING AND STORING
CARGO SHIPPED BY UNRRA
WILL BE THE RESPONSIBIL-
ITY OF CNRRA. THIS IN-
CLUDES ANY PRE SHIP
TACKLE EXPENSES.

R. B. GOODWIN,
CLOSURE OFFICER.

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc.
Basement, French Bank Bldg.,
A.E.H. de Sousa, Auctioneer
Telephone 31867.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

It is hereby notified that the following Sale of Crown Land
by Public Auction will be held at the Offices of the Public
Works Department on Monday, the 29th day of December, 1947,
at 3 p.m.

Sale Conditions may be obtained and sale plan inspected at
the Office of the Superintendent of Crown Lands and Surveys,
Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT

Sale No.	Registry No.	Location	Boundaries	Area in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
1	Kowloon Inland Lot No. 6086	At Hung Wong Tai Road, Ma Tau Kok, Kowloon	As per sale plan (Area coloured red)	50,000 (about)	\$1,850	\$125,000

Immediately after the fall of the hammer the purchaser shall
according to the Conditions of Sale pay to the Auctioneer a
sum of \$25,000.00 in cash or by cheque which shall be certified
by the Bank on which it is drawn. The Bank must be a member
of the Exchange Banks Association.

V. KENNIFF,
Director of Public Works.

Date: 19th December, 1947.

Christmas Holidays

Thursday, December 25th, 1947.

Friday, December 26th, 1947.

We beg to inform our patrons that on the
above Holidays, our hours of business will be as
follows:—

Main Store, Exchange Building
Kowloon Branch, Nathan Road
Annexe, Exchange Building
Closed
Open from
9.00—11.00 a.m.
Closed

Note! Cakes and Bread will be on sale in the
vestibule of Cafe Wiseman from 8.30 a.m. to
11.00 a.m. instead of the Annexe as heretofore.

Cafe Wiseman
OPEN AS USUAL
Boxing Day extension up
to 1.00 a.m.

LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

Tentative Plan For China Aid

Washington, Dec. 22.
A tentative plan for aid to China has now been
drafted and is being reviewing by interested
Government departments including the Bud-
get Bureau before its submission to Congress
at the regular session starting on Jan. 6, State
Department sources disclosed.
Meanwhile, the Nanking Government has been
handed another \$18,000,000 in straight relief
by Congress. This will be in addition to the
\$27,700,000 worth of relief goods which only
now are flowing across the Pacific under the
post-UNRRA programme.

In addition, there is under-
stood to be still a trickle of
UNRRA goods entering China.
This flow should continue at
least until February by which
time Congressional consid-
eration of the State Department's
plan will be well under way.
As far as is known here, this
plan provides for \$300,000,000
to start in April at the rate of
\$20,000,000 monthly.

The strong Republican desire
to see aid to China started as
soon as possible may result in
the speeding up of this schedule.

A spur was given to their
campaign by the recent testi-
mony of General Wedemeyer,
author of the still secret report
on conditions in China, during
testimony before a Congressional
committee this week.

Truman Message

He described the problem of
giving Generalissimo Chiang
Kai-shek military as well as
economic assistance as "urgent"
—and it was obvious that the
committee agreed with him.

The State Department plan
will presumably be contained in
President Truman's "traditional"
"State of the Union" message
to be delivered to Congress at
the start of the regular session.

The Republican criticism and
the conflicting views over what
amounts to one of the most con-
troversial issues in American
foreign policy, however, are ex-
pected to compel either Mr.
Truman or Mr. Marshall to
issue separate statements of
policy towards the Chinese
Central Government, both in
relation to its present status
and to the proposed programme
of assistance.

Such a statement, it was un-
derstood here, would list the
conditions which the United
States would attach to the pro-
gramme to make it effective.

These conditions are expected
to include at least a pledge of
progress towards a broadening
of the base of the present re-
gime and of immediate action
by President Chiang Kai-shek
effectively to control the chaotic
monetary conditions in
China.

The conditions the State De-
partment wish to impose, in
fact, are expected to be con-
siderably more severe than
those attached to the European
aid and will call for close Am-
erican supervision of the aid
and a full Chinese accounting
of the progress of the scheme.

Military Help?

To what extent the State De-
partment scheme provides for
military assistance, if at all, is
uncertain.

The embargo on China's pur-
chasing arms in the United
States on a "cash and carry"
basis has been lifted, but the
fact is that China has not suffi-
cient money available to pro-
vide herself with any significant
quantities.

It now seems virtually certain
that invidious comparisons be-
tween what the State Depart-
ment is doing for Europe and
what it feels it should do for
China will be the feature of the
foreign policy debates in Con-
gress during the opening months
of 1948.—Reuter.

Paris, Dec. 23.

Marcelles police today arrest-
ed six people on a charge of
possession of forged dollar and
pound notes to the face value of
\$380 and £10.—Reuter



GIFTS

FOR
EVERYONE!

SHOP
EARLY

WE

EXTEND

OUR SHOPPING HOURS

TO-DAY

China Emporium Ltd.

LIQUEURS for XMAS

SHIPPED BY
ERVEN LUCAS BOLS
AMSTERDAM

APRICOT BRANDY,
BLACKBERRY BRANDY,
CHERRY BRANDY,
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CREME DE MENTHE,
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MARASCHINO,
ORANGE CURACAO,
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Lucky Star Cafe

873 NATHAN RD., KOWLOON TELEPHONE 59436

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CHRISTMAS FARE

1. LOBSTER COCKTAIL
2. PORTO RICO SOUP
3. GAROUPA MARGURY
4. TOURNEDOS FARSLIENE
5. ROAST TURKEY & HAM
6. PLUM PUDDING
7. SEASONABLE FRUITS
8. TEA OR COFFEE

PRICE: \$4.90



INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

America's Oldest Fire and Marine Insurance Company Financial Statement, Dec. 31, 1946

ASSETS	LIABILITIES
Bonds and Stocks \$167,332,386.51	Reserve for Claims (Including Ad-justment Expense) \$ 19,516,668.66
(Valued as required by National Convention of Insurance Commis-sioners)	Unearned Premium Reserve 40,244,330.34
Accrued Interest 96,228.60	Deposits Reclaimable on Perpetual Policies 1,111,145.15
Real Estate 5,195,000.00	Reserve for Taxes and Other Ex-penses 3,049,375.00
Cash in Banks and Office 15,595,837.54	Reinsurance Non-admitted Companies 1,933,385.05
Premiums in Course of Collection (Not over 90 days due) and Other Assets 8,371,484.13	Dividend Payable Jan. 15, 1947 2,625,000.00
	Voluntary Reserve 28,070,782.58
	Fluctuation in Security Values, \$25,590,782.58
	Aviation Contingency Reserve, \$2,500,000.00
	Capital 15,000,000.00
	Surplus 81,000,000.00
	\$196,590,936.73

If actual market values as of December 31, 1946, were used in valuing all stocks and bonds held by the Com-pany at that date, the total admitted assets would show as \$201,406,622.27
And the Voluntary Reserve as 30,406,468.07

Note: Securities carried at \$2,630,552.87 in the above statement are deposited as required by law.

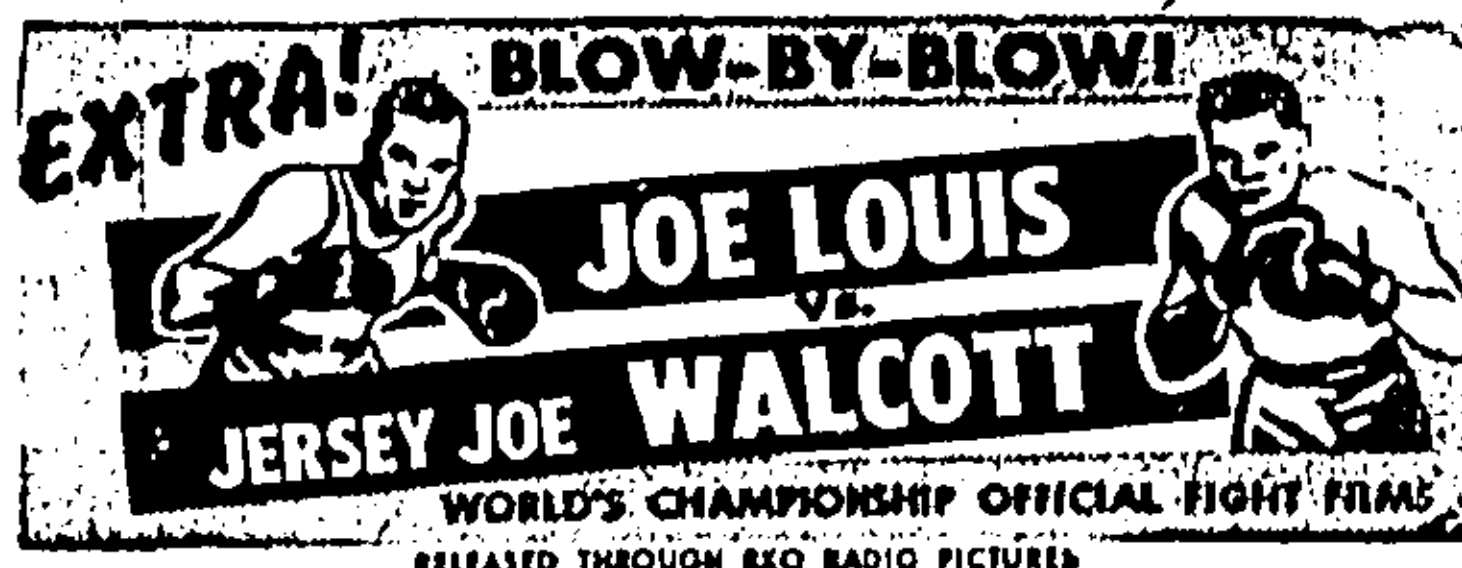
HONG KONG OFFICE

Bank of East Asia Building

Sixth Floor

TO-DAY ONLY **QUEEN'S** AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.15 & 9.30 P.M.

GRAND DOUBLE ATTRACTION!



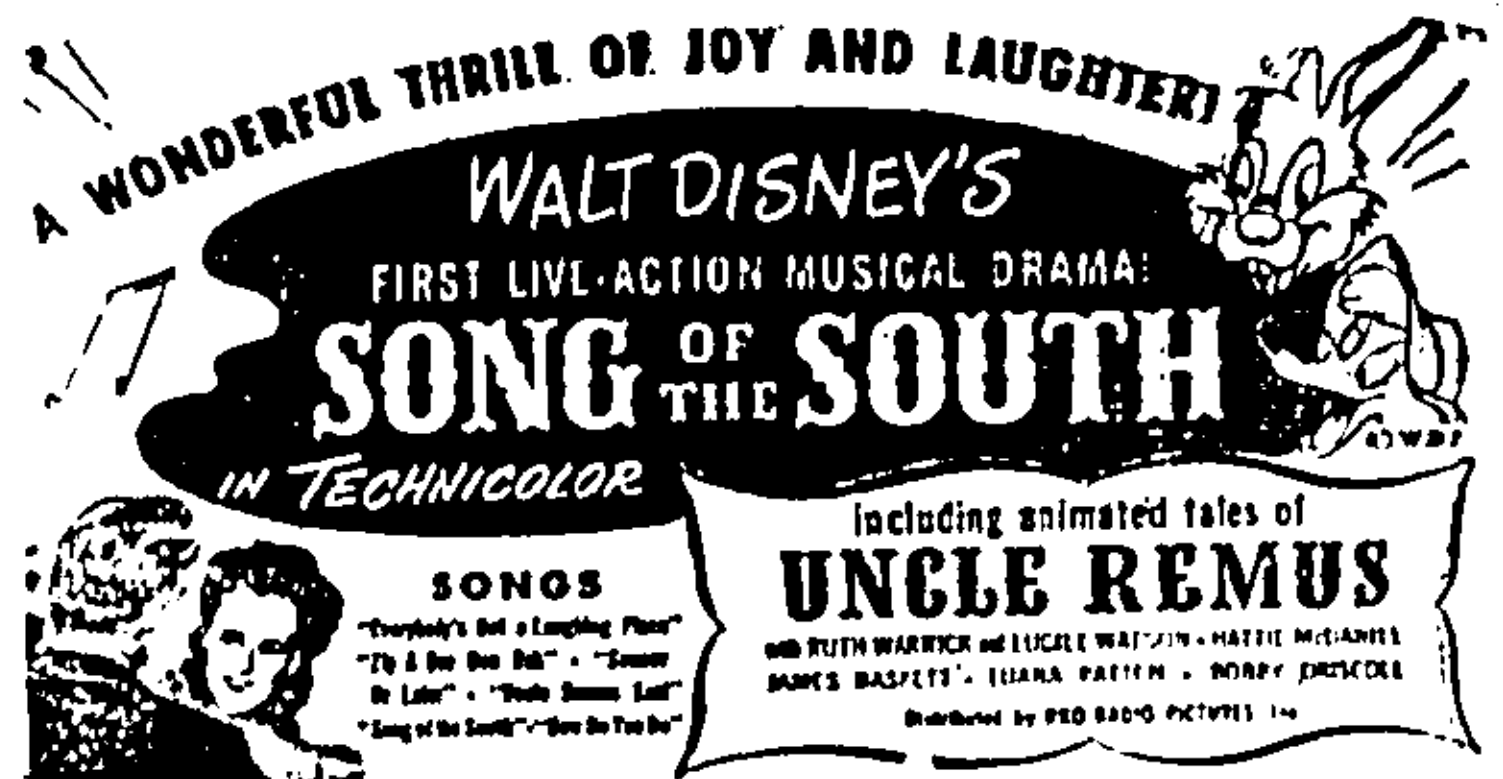
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FIRST FREE INDIAN ARMY

Few British Officers Being Retained

New Delhi, Dec. 23. The Indian Defence Minister Baldev Singh announced today that by next April the first Free Indian Army, which for more than a century has been under British rule, largely led and always commanded by British officers, will be officered almost entirely by Indians.

Alleged Confession By Priests

Prague, Dec. 23. The official Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, today said that four Catholic priests on trial at Pola, Yugoslavia, had confessed to spying for an unidentified foreign power. Father Cimplicio Albino Gomerio was quoted as admitting that he collected military information from his parish members and radioed it abroad by a secret transmitter in St. Anthony's Monastery in Pola. Father Bernardo Ernesto Berino reportedly confessed that he supplied data on movements of Army armaments and political and economic conditions in Italy. Tanjug said Father Ambrogio Roberto Belato admitted that he helped install a secret radio, and Father Atanazio Cristiano Koeljanec "admitted spying for a foreign power." — United Press.

ITALY TO HAND OVER WARSHIPS

London, Dec. 23. Dockets will no longer be needed for mattresses, Mr. Harold Wilson, the President of the Board of Trade, announced. — Reuter.

Italy to Hand Over Warships

Rome, Dec. 23. The Big Four Naval Commission, arranging details of Italian warships to the Allies under the peace treaty, has presented to the Italian Government a list of ships that Italy must hand over to Russia and France, the Rome newspaper Giornale Della Sera reported tonight. It was learned at the naval section of the Italian Ministry of Defence that a document had been presented to the Commission but no confirmation of its reported contents was obtainable. (The treaty required that Italy deliver to the four powers some 30 warships. Britain and the United States have renounced their shares, which must be scrapped and not added to the Italian Navy, permitted by treaty.) — Reuter.

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Soviet Moves In Eastern Germany

Berlin, Dec. 23. The Soviet Military Administration moved definitely last night to solidify its hold on Eastern Germany for whatever eventualities the failure of the Big Four Foreign Ministers' conference in London may bring. The Russians ousted the two leaders of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in the Soviet zone. These party leaders, Jakob Kaiser and Ernst Lemmer, were opponents of the Nazi regime and took part in the unsuccessful 1944 assassination plot against Adolf Hitler. The Christian Democratic Union, called the Christian Social Union in the American zone, had been tolerated only as "opponents" within dressing in the Russian occupation area. The Union is a moderate party with strong Church backing. The Russians also have informed the Union that the licence of Wilhelm Gries, chief editor of the Party's Berlin newspaper Neue Zeit, had been withdrawn and a new editor was being installed. — Associated Press.

PLANE CRASH NEAR PRAGUE

Vienna, Dec. 23. A plane, believed to be carrying important passengers from Innsbruck to Vienna, crash-landed today near Prague, according to reports here tonight. After French sources had reported that the plane was overdue, British, American and Soviet authorities ordered a search. The plane had had an "adventurous flight" before coming down, it was reported. — Reuter.

Sharing Out Italy's Fleet

Rome, Dec. 23. The newspaper Giornale Della Sera published a list showing the disposition of 99 Italian naval warcraft. The newspaper said Allied naval experts had decided upon the distribution. Russia, France, Yugoslavia, Greece and the Netherlands will receive 97 of the war vessels, the newspaper said. The other two are the battleships Italia and Vittorio Veneto which it said the United States and Britain were returning to Italy for scrapping.

Russia will get the 28,000-ton battleship Giulio Cesare, the article said. — Associated Press.

BIG JEWEL HAUL

New York, Dec. 23. Three armed men held up and beat a Fifth Avenue jewellery store messenger today and escaped with jewellery and diamonds valued at US\$75,000 to US\$100,000.

Police said that the messenger, who was found tied to a staircase in the building where the jewellery firm's offices are located, was returning with the jewellery from New Jersey where, it was understood, he had been showing the gems to a customer. — United Press.

Asia Wants Marshall Plan Too

Calcutta, Dec. 23. An Indian economic authority today complained of the absence of a Marshall Plan for Asia.

The statement came from Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, who was a delegate to the recent Asia Economic Conference and is presiding over the Indian Economic conference which opened here today.

Dr. Lokanathan said there not only was no sign of aid from America for this part of the world "but recent pronouncements by responsible authorities speaking on behalf of the United States Government have thrown cold water on such expectations."

He praised the plan for Europe as "generous and bold" but warned that "it would be wrong if the belief gains ground that Asia and the Far East can wait until Europe is set on her feet." — United Press.

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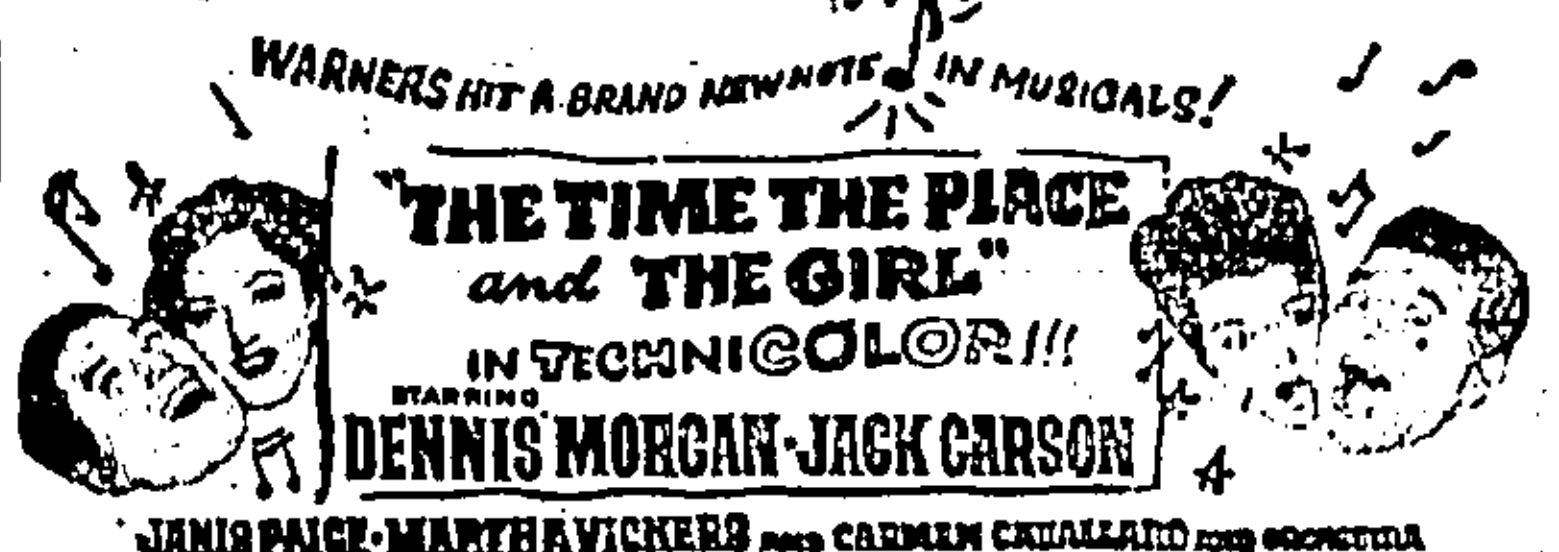
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BIRTH

HUTTENMEIER.—To Lisa, wife of Erik Huttenmeier, at the Queen Mary Hospital on December 23, 1947, a son.

NEW TENSIONS

The so-called 'cold war' between Russia and the United States, which is perhaps too simple a designation for the political and ideological struggle proceeding in all points of the globe, threatens to become more intense in the Far East unless there is some unforeseen and radical change in the trend of the movement.

Even had no challenge been thrown down by the American decision to grant interim aid to China, there would still have existed good enough reason to expect current developments to strain yet further American-Soviet relations on three fronts—Korea, China and Japan.

The United Nations Korean Commission, bitterly denounced by the Soviet, which has refused cooperation, will in January attempt to carry out its mandate. As there is every indication that the Soviet will refuse to grant the commission entry into northern Korea, the United Nations group can perform its designated functions in South Korea only. To venture to set up an independent government there would be worse than futile, since it would still leave the country hopelessly split, with its economy so cut across that there could be no survival without considerable outside financial assistance.

United States officials, having forced the issue, apparently believe that such a government in southern Korea could hold its own in an eventual unification tussle with the north. On the other hand, the Soviet proposal that both Russian and American troops be withdrawn denotes Russian confidence that Communism has been planted strongly enough for the North to take over all Korea were the country left to itself. No matter which view is the correct one, the process clearly involves increased tension in Soviet-American relations.

Similarly, the announced intention of a powerful group in Congress, backed by the President, to ensure that China receives considerable economic aid to beat down Communism, must tend in the same direction. Although the State Department is more reluctant than the Republicans to embark upon aid to the Chiang Kai-shek regime, quite different reasons are operative. The Republican purpose has been made clear enough—the desire to bolster the campaign to suppress the Communists. The State Department, in this case, requires certain guarantees that the controls to be exercised will be sufficient to ensure that the financial aid granted will definitely contribute to that end.

As far as Japan is concerned, the sharp difference of opinion between Russia and the other Powers on how the treaty for that country should be written has already been given wide publicity. If the members of the Far East Commission decide that it is impossible to persuade Russia to abandon veto power in relation to the Japanese Treaty, the split will be complete.

Indications are that the deciding factor on this issue may well be China. So far she has joined Russia in insisting that while a two-thirds majority may be sufficient, the two-thirds must include Britain, China, Russia and the United States. Diplomatic ex-

America's Santa Claus is an Englishman this year. His sack and sled bulge with toys proudly stamped "Made in England". There are not enough of them in the country to meet the demand. As the dollars start to melt away in this burgeoning Christmas-time the U.S. has ever known, British trains and bicycles, rocking horses and engineering sets, clockwork cars and aeroplanes are snatched off the shop counters as soon as they go on sale.

Riding High

Prices are low, the quality incredibly high. Said Macy's celebrated department store — the miracle of New York's 34th street: "They're beautiful, beautiful toys. Nothing to touch them over here."

Children wriggle through the shopping throngs to gaze in wonder at the all-metal horse that rocks them across the floor when the riders put pressure on the stirrups.

It made its British debut at the "Daily Mail" Ideal Home Exhibition last spring. It costs \$13 12s. 6d., delivered and duty paid.

Fathers reluctantly hand over to their small sons perfect and complete shunting yards, where a locomotive busily collects and automatically uncouples a string of trucks. The salesman enthuses: "Just look at the workmanship. It's a revelation in clockwork." The cost: 7s. 11d.

Too Good

A set of 400 finely mortised building blocks, made of hard rubber, to construct 100 different houses, castles, and monuments, including the Sphinx, is tagged \$9.98—\$2 9s. 11d.

Mechanical trains, with an adjustable throttle, cost \$2 4s. 6d., with an oval of railway lines.

100 Years Ago

(From the files of the "China Mail")

We extract the following from a private letter from Ningpo upon which we can place reliance. The fact shows the deep depravity and moral turpitude in which the people of China exist. It may hardly be believed in Europe; but that such things do take place among this people, living in all the deep darkness of heathen ignorance, should be only a further provocation to those who have enjoyed all the blessings of revealed religion the more strenuously to exert themselves to labour to impart to them the light of the Gospel of Christ.

"Opposite Dr. McGowan's house the other day, a young man, for his continued bad conduct, was drowned by his own father and brother. He was put into a sack, in which was a large stone, and was carried as far as the father and brother could wade into the river and was then dropped. The father immediately left, the brother remaining until the tragic deed was ended. Both father and son were dressed in good clothes, showing themselves to belong to the upper class."

Our correspondent informs us this is the first instance of the power of the father, which in China exists even unto death, being used since his residence in Ningpo.

From the "Straits Times": "We hear the 'Albatross' proceeds immediately to Sarawak to relieve HMS 'Royalist', and that the latter vessel will go on to China to enable her officers and crew to recruit their health. The 'Nemesis' will proceed to Labuan and from thence to China, and H.C. Str. 'Phlegathon' will leave Hongkong for the Straits."

changes in the last week have revealed a strong bid by Britain and the United States to bring China round to their way of thinking, for it seems quite certain that though they might be prepared to proceed without Russia, they will not sit down to treaty-making with Japan without China.

The grim fact, however, seems to be that no matter what the result of the jockeying for position in the Far East, the conditions precedent to the possibility of better relations and the abandonment of the 'cold war' do not exist. Indeed, the position adopted by the United States since the breakdown of the Big Four Conference would seem to require a considerable retreat on several fronts by Russia before the strain can be eased.

Dollars Bloom For Us On N.Y. Xmas Trees

By James Brough

The chief buyer at Stern's, the sleek, white store that dominates 42nd street, keeps on his desk a collection of lead soldiers. Once in a while he fondles these 2in. Zulus, Grenadiers, and Dragoons. "They're almost too good to sell," he says.

It all adds up to the biggest trade boost Britain has enjoyed since the war's end. The Christmas trees, glowing magically in the dusk, that shadow the street corners, the toy departments, and front porches are growing dollars for the United Kingdom.

On every other floor of the glistening giant stores "Made in England" earns the same attention, draws the same line of shoppers. Prices here are considerably higher than for similar American-made gifts and luxuries. In this inflation-fever of spendthrift splurging that does not matter.

Housewives buying the customary "present for the house" pass over blankets at \$3 19s. 6d. in favour of imports from Scotland with an inch-thick pile priced at \$1 more.

Putting on English

If they can afford it -- and apparently everybody is busting in and out of the steam-stuffy shops these days -- they buy English gloves for their husbands at \$2 10s., instead of American models at half the cost.

The same is true of overcoats ("English Cloth": anything up to \$50); neckties (six times the price for Britain's best); and shoes ("We sell only the very finest English quality and I'm afraid they're \$32," said the floor-walker).

The American male will gasp when he sees the bill, but he delights in the British socks and shirts, dressing-gowns, scarves, raincoats, and sweaters. He, in turn, will fork out \$3 15s. for the Scots-knit jumper and an equal sum for its matching cardigan, to be wrapped in ribbon and doused in tinsel before presentation to his wife, aunt, girl-friend or secretary.

Grateful at heart for the fairy which, if nowhere else in the world, still sits atop the American Christmas tree, the hardest-headed business man, the most cynical go-getter, is playing Scrooge after his conversion.

Like all good holly-and-mistletoe tales this one carries a moral: Quality is unquenchable, but complacency is catastrophic. The toymakers in Santa's workshop, England, have nothing to worry about. Their toys are better than, and as cheap, despite duty and delivery costs, as anything here.

Prestige Value

The rest of Britain's export traders can expect to ride the inflation wave for many more months unscathed. Their prices

are high, but so are their standards of workmanship and their prestige.

Said one sleek woman marketing expert: "Let England stick to quality production. In quantity she can never hope to compete with our factories and their mass output from up-to-the-minute machines."

"China and pottery are markets that Britain hasn't even begun to satisfy yet, whatever the prices may be."

There are occasional whispered criticisms about inferior consignments of British goods reaching the U.S. Because they harm the reputation for craftsmanship which is Britain's invaluable business asset in her export drive, they should be halted before they reach ships' cargo holds.

Keep Smart

There are much louder comments here from style-sensitive shoppers that the basic design of some British exports is inferior, too.

In this country, brought up with streamlined toasters, wind-swept washing machines, and glamorous dress prints which, though they fall apart at the first laundering, look like Paris originals at 2s. 11d. a yard, that lack of chic may adversely affect sales when the dollars start to dry up and the customers get choosier.

If America's Santa Claus is to keep his British nationality in 1948 he will need the help of a smart designer.

Ghavam's Arrest Reported

TEHERAN, DEC. 23.

PRESS REPORTS TODAY SAID THAT EX-PREMIER GHAVAM SULTANEH WAS ARRESTED ON SATURDAY AND HIS PASSPORT CONFISCATED.

Reports said Ghavam paid a formal visit yesterday to Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and was scheduled to leave for the United States via Geneva when his arrest was ordered by the public prosecutor. They said the police confiscated his passport and the plane left without him.

The Majlis announced that a Parliamentary committee would investigate charges against Ghavam. The nature of the charges was not disclosed.

The Iranian Cabinet resigned on Dec. 4 in a dispute with Ghavam—then Premier—over domestic politics. Ghavam refused to resign until voted out by the People's Parliament.—United Press.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By SHEPARD BARCLAY

"THE AUTHORITY ON AUTHORITIES"

GOOD AND BAD POINTS

There are both good and bad points about bidding a couple of suits against an opponent who eventually becomes the declarer. In favor of your own side is the fact that you have given your partner information about the composition of your hand which will guide him in his selection of leads and defensive plays. His own actions then become more informative to you when he either follows or violates the apparent requests made by your bidding. But against these is the disadvantage of having the declarer know better how to plan his play against your side.

S. 9 7 3
H. A Q 6 4
D. A 2
C. 10 5 3 2
N. 5 3 2
W. 8 7 2
E. Q J 6
S. 4 10 8
H. 4 2
D. 9 6
C. K J 7
6 4

S. K 5
H. K 10 9 5 3
D. K J 8
C. A 9 8

(Dealer: East, East-West vulnerable.)
South West North
Pass 1 H 1 S 2 H
Pass Pass 3 C 3 H
3 S 4 H

A very careful player in the South, B. Jay Becker, winner of many titles, was willing to play this deal below game, despite North's free raise since strength over his kings had been shown to his left by West's vulnerable overcall. After West was kind enough to reopen it with his 3 Clubs and North then showed ability to bid 3-Hearts, he decided to try for game in view of East voluntarily showing a spade fit.

Mr. Becker made nice use of the information from the hostile bidding of the black suits. West opened the diamond 9, the Q losing to the K. The heart A and Q, diamond A and heart K were scored, then the established diamond J ruffed—a trumping an ace. West being marked as having five each in the black suits, East was now counted as having just one club. If that happened to be the K, Q or J, a nice throw-in play was in view. The crucial lead of a club from dummy showed that singleton to be the Q, which was bumped off by the A.

Now Mr. Becker put West in with the club 9 to the J. West could score the club K too, but then had an unpleasant choice. He had to lead a club to dummy's now good 10 for discard of a spade, or else lay down the spade. A and another, hoping East had the K. He tried the latter, which gave Mr. Becker's K the trick needed for the contract.

Tomorrow's Problem

S. 6 2
H. J 3
D. K J 10 8 3
C. A K J 10
S. 10
H. A K 7 5
D. 7 6 5 4 2
C. Q 8

S. A K J 9 5 4
H. 10 8 4
D. Q
C. 6 4 2

(Dealer: North, North-South vulnerable.)

How should South play for his 4 Spades doubled by East if three high trumps are led against him?

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Why shouldn't I see how the shades look on you? That's where they always wind up at parties!"

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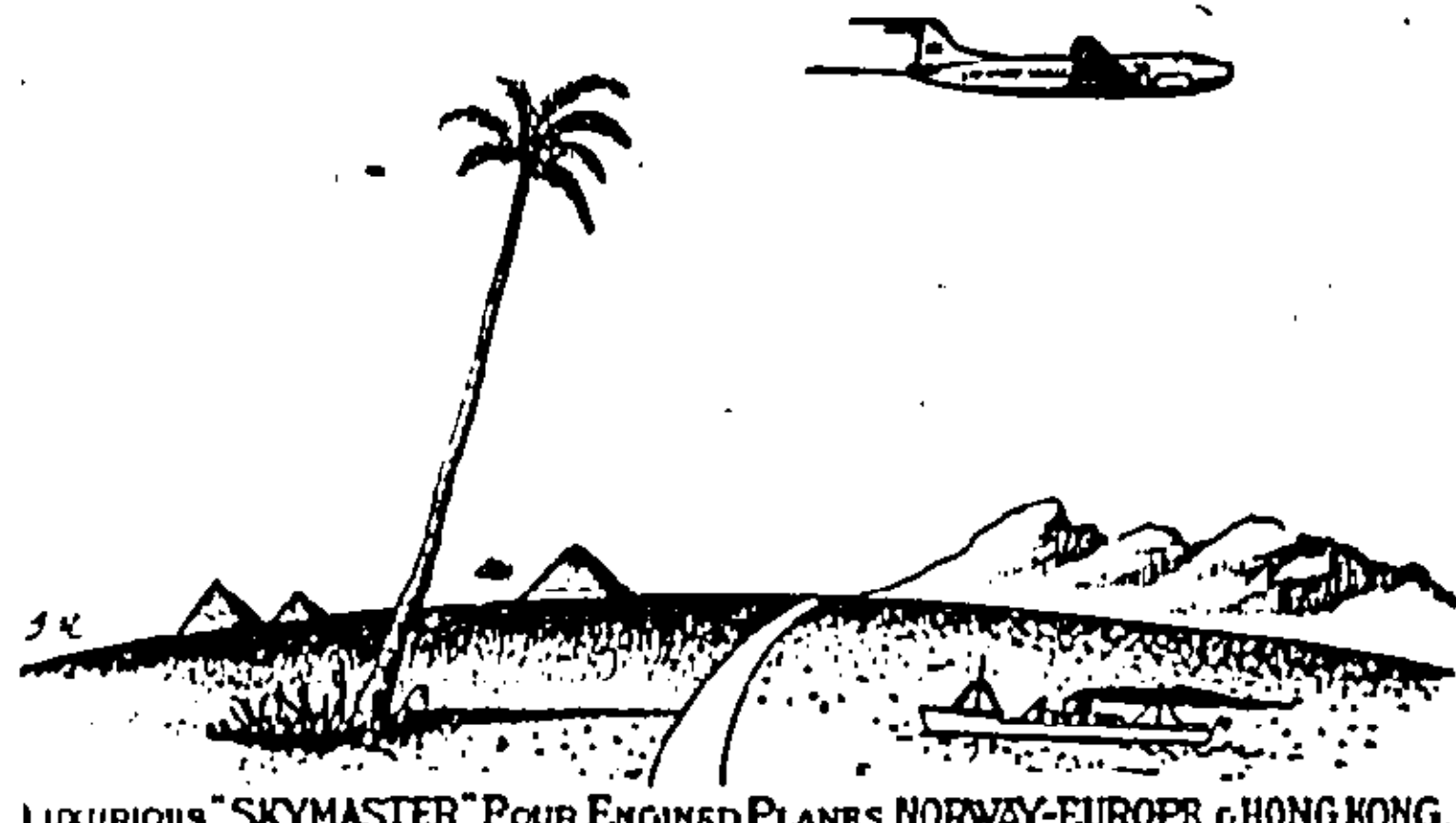
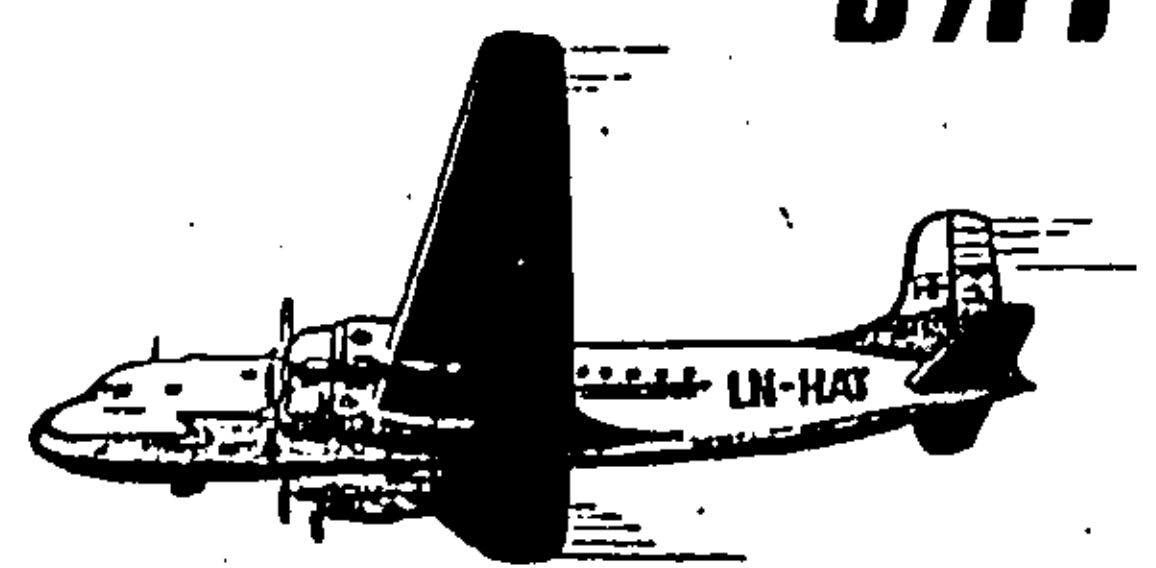
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END OF HOUSE OF SAVOY

New Charter For Italy Passed

Rome, Dec. 23. The Constituent Assembly last night approved a constitution for the Republic of Italy, thus formally ending the reign of the House of Savoy. The vote, which marked the conclusion of 17 months of work on the charter, was 453 to 62, with most of the monarchists and Nationalists casting negative ballots.

Man Of Many Parts Arrested

Rome, Dec. 23. Henri Roger Lievens, native of Etterbeek, Belgium, otherwise known as Unagrika Vaskanada, "representative of the Living Buddha in Europe," was arrested in Rome today on orders of the Ministry of the Interior after investigation by the Office of International Criminology. According to the police, Lievens, besides being "legate for Europe of the great Buddhist sanctuaries of Asia" and "grand Sovereign 33 of the World Association of Master Masons," also was once a light opera artist and publicity agent. Lievens was wanted by the Belgian authorities for alleged collaboration with the Nazis and will be put into concentration camp, the Italian police said, because "extradition cannot be carried out for political crimes." Lievens, who announced himself as the Tibetan prince Min-rain Kilil num Kerenzi Lind, was stopped at a press conference by three Italian orientalist. He could not answer them when they addressed him in the language of Tibet.—United Press.

PRIESTS KILLED

Athens, Dec. 23. The Greek press said today that three priests and a layman were abducted by guerrillas and their bodies later found in Macedonia.—Associated Press.

Enrico de Nicola, who under the constitution becomes the first President of the Republic, told the deputies in a message upon which "the judgment of history would be serene." De Nicola has been serving as Provisional President.

Italy actually was proclaimed a Republic on June 9, 1946 after a plebiscite on the issue went against the monarchy. The last king, Umberto II, subsequently went into exile in Portugal.

Today's action was carried out solemnly and with emotion. The deputies cheered when Vittorio Emanuele Orlando, Italian Premier in World War I and the last surviving member of the Big Four signers of the Versailles Treaty, spoke of the work the Assembly had done and ended with the words: "God Save Italy."

Premier Alcide de Gasperi pledged his Government to the new charter and expressed the hope that the future would find the same concord that today's voting displayed.—Associated Press.

MONSOON DRAMA IN FORMOSA STRAITS

Shanghai, Dec. 23. The CNRRA Water transport ocean-going tug, "Sea Lion," skippered by Captain Harry Hammond, from Manly, Australia, featured in a near disaster off the north coast of Formosa during the week-end.

A surplus U.S. Navy LST it was towing broke loose after a 12-hour battle with the north-eastern monsoon which is sweeping the Straits of Formosa, according to private despatches received here this morning.

Earlier in the day, a large wire cable, nearly six inches in circumference, began sweeping across the aft deck and took away the roller stops which regulate the sweep of the cable.

Calling his officers and men on deck, Captain Hammond effected emergency repairs, and when he saw that the sudden roll sent men sprawling, he ordered them off the decks and tried to veer the ship to ease the strain on the cable.

For 12 hours, the Sea Lion fought head-on seas, and then, in the small hours of the morning, the officer on watch felt the tow give and the LST broke away.

Investigation revealed that the force of the monsoon had actually snapped the cable in two. Awaiting daylight, the Sea Lion went in search of the tow and found that it had drifted towards Keelung, near which she anchored for another tow attempt when the weather clears up.

The Chief Engineer of the Sea Lion is also an Australian, Mr. Bob Duncan, from Innisfail, Queensland, and well-known on the Australian coast.

Captain Hammond sailed with the United States Army in New Guinea and the Philippines during the war.—Reuter.

ELECTIONS IN EIRE

Oldcastle, Dec. 23. The Prime Minister of Eire, Mr. Eamon de Valera, announced here tonight that the Eire general election would take place "about the first week of February."

The election was called after the defeat of Mr. de Valera's Fianna Fail Party by the New Republican Party in two out of three bye-elections at the end of October.—Reuter.

Buried In Fall Of Cliff

Holyhead, Dec. 23. John Stanley, aged 25, and his brother Martin, aged 23, the two eldest sons of Lt. Col. the Hon. Oliver Hugh Stanley and Lady Kathleen Stanley of Plas Llanfawr, Holyhead, were killed yesterday while walking on the seashore.

A 16-foot cliff suddenly caved in and they were buried under several tons of earth.

The brothers both held army commissions—John in the London Irish Rifles and Martin in the Coldstream Guards. Both served in Italy and were released several months ago.—Reuter.

Strategic Materials For Aid

Washington, Dec. 23. EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD BE CALLED UPON TO INCREASE THEIR OUTPUT OF STRATEGIC MATERIALS FOR THE U.S. NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE IN RETURN FOR PART OF THE AMERICAN AID UNDER THE US\$17,000,000,000 MARSHALL PLAN.

President Harry Truman's proposal contains a proviso which might make available some US\$250,000,000 worth of scarce war materials available for purchase annually.

Truman's legislative proposal calls for an "economic cooperation administration." The Agency would be empowered to make grants, in cases where repayment of dollar loans is deemed not feasible.

It provides that an equivalent amount, in the currency of the recipient nation, be deposited in special accounts to be used for purposes mutually agreed upon by the United States and the country concerned.

One of the purposes specified is exploration for and production of raw materials in probably long term short supply in the United States. The administrator could also spend part of the dollar funds appropriated by Congress for the same purpose.—Associated Press.

CHINA'S RICE PROSPECTS

Washington, Dec. 23. The Agriculture Department today reported that China's 1947 rice crop estimate had been revised upward by 160,000,000 bushels and was now forecast at 2,514,000,000 bushels, which is 96 per cent of the pre-war average.—United Press.

Cathay Pacific

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THE SEASON'S GREETINGS
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Travelling Public
and
looks forward to
a New Year of
Faster and more
Comfortable Air
Service than ever
before.

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The graceful, four-engined flying-boat has become a firm favourite with seasoned travellers. Once airborne and relaxed they smoke, drink and talk at leisure — and the fact that they can walk upstairs contributes to the homely atmosphere. Flying-boat travel gives them space to move about in roomy cabins, an excellent view (because of the high-wing design) — as well as an observation promenade. Travel by flying-boat at leisure — with scheduled stops but still at comfortable speed.

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Departure:
Kai Tak Airport, Kowloon, 10 a.m.

Arrival:
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SHANGHAI-HONGKONG
Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

Departure:
Lungwa Airport Shanghai, 10 a.m.

Arrival:
Kai Tak Airport Kowloon, 3.00 p.m.

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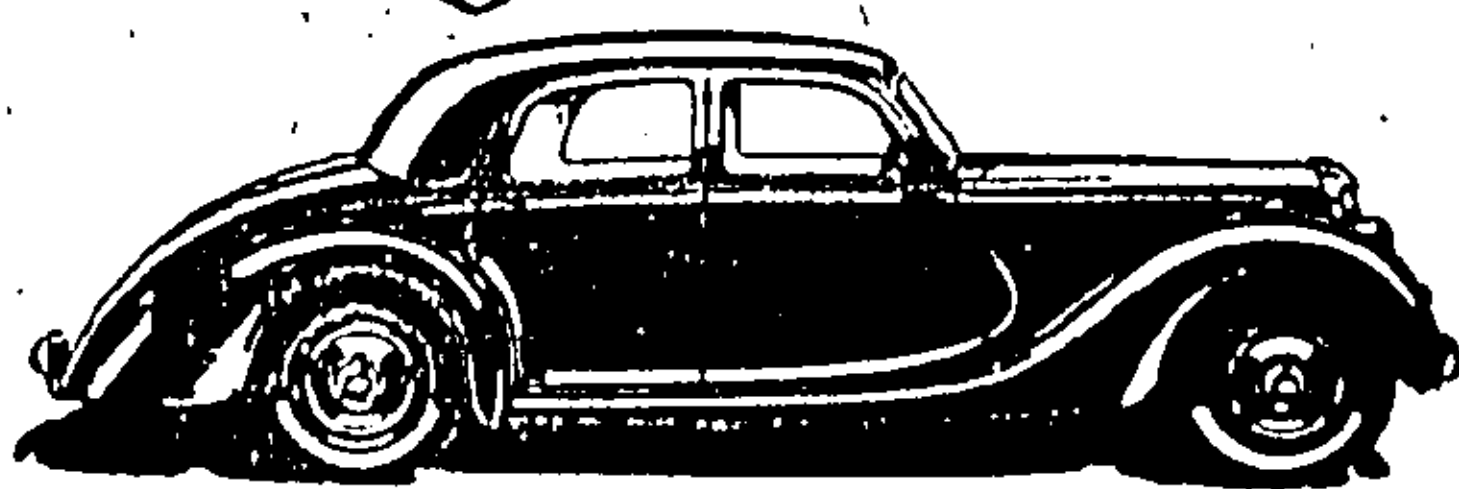
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Xmas Day—all Branches closed.
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Boxing Day—Sunday hours only.

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Bulk deliveries of Ice from East Point Works as
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The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.

PURE FOOD SPECIALISTS

"NO STRINGS" TO U.S. HELP Campaign Launched To Stifle Attempts To Reduce Or Delay Aid "Gift Rather Than A Loan"

Washington, Dec. 22.

A committee of prominent American citizens—"The Committee for the Marshall Plan to Aid European Recovery"—today launched an active campaign to stifle any Congressional attempts to reduce or delay the aid programme or to tie political or economic "strings" to it. The Committee is headed by the former Secretary of War, Mr. Henry Stimson, another former Secretary of War, Mr. Robert Patterson, and former Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson.

The committee has similarly warned against jeopardising the whole European aid programme.

In launching the campaign at a press conference here today, Mr. Acheson declared: "You cannot cut down what the Truman Administration has asked for during the first 15 months—\$4,000,000,000—without jeopardising the whole programme."

It would be helpful if the 16-nation Conference in Paris were convened again "to arrange details of continuing organisation and mutual assistance and thus assure Congress in advance of the reality of its intentions," he added.

The Committee criticised the opinion expressed in many Congressional quarters that the plan should be voted on a year-by-year basis rather than all at one time.

Warning

"If the 16 European nations carry out their part, we must be prepared to carry out ours," it was said.

"If we do not approve of the whole scheme, Europe will wonder if we really meant it."

Warning against any political "strings" being attached to the scheme, Mr. Acheson declared: "We should not ask of others what we would find humiliating to accept ourselves if we were in their position."

Mr. Acheson coupled his plea that most of the money should be given rather than loaned with insistence that any demand that the European

nations give up their gold securities would be a "futile folly."

"You cannot expect Europe to make such a staggering increase in production as we propose and still repay thousands of millions of dollars in debt. Likewise in so far as you demand that they liquidate their resources you create a new and more difficult balance of payments problem,"—Reuter.



Mr. George Marshall, U.S. Secretary of State, and M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, raised their glasses in a mutual toast at a lunch given by the former to the latter at 14 Prince's Gate, the London home of the American Ambassador. The occasion was the eve of the Big Four talks on German reparations. (Alpha).

"Complete Failure" In China

WASHINGTON, DEC. 23. AMERICA'S FOREIGN POLICY IN CHINA WAS DESCRIBED AS A "COMPLETE FAILURE" BY THE REPUBLICAN REPRESENTATIVE, MR. WALTER JUDT, OF MINNESOTA, TODAY.

He said that the Congressional authorisation of \$60,000,000 credit to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek would force the State Department to abandon plans for "economic aid" in favour of military aid, and he predicted that Congress would give China \$60,000,000 before the end of January.

A former missionary to China and the chief spokesman for the group which added China to the emergency relief programme, which Congress approved in a special session, Mr. Judt said, in a statement, that military goods could be turned over to China from stockpiles already existing there.

"The release of these supplies would actually give us relief from the costs now incurred in storage and guarding," he said.

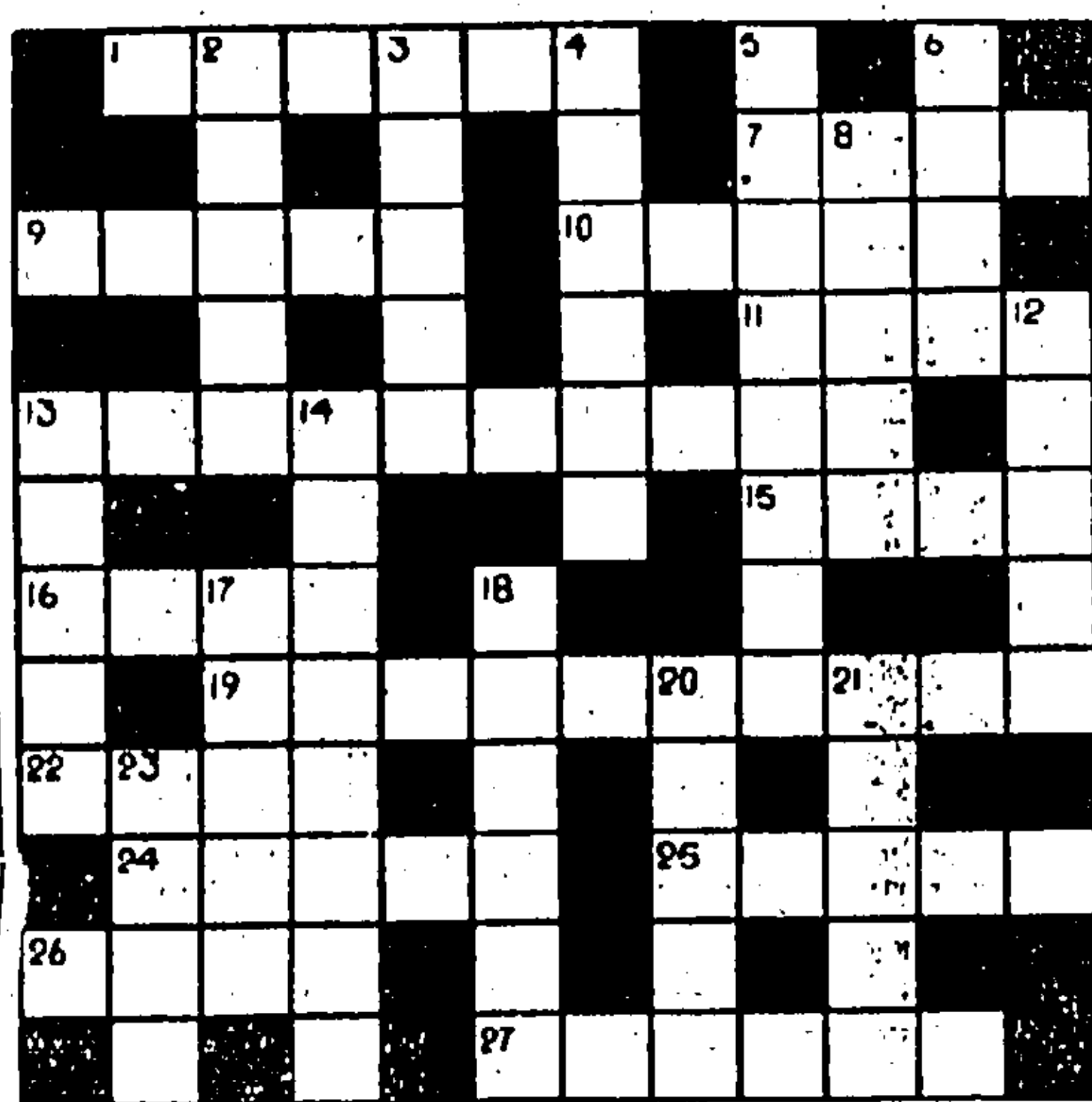
Mr. Judt said that not one shell had been turned over to the Chinese Nationalists since May, 1946, when the State Department's "neutral policy" went into effect.—Reuter.

CLAIMS ON NAZI LOOTINGS

Information concerning the submission of claims by persons dispossessed of property in Germany under the Nazi regime in respect of such property, is available at the Colonial Secretariat to any persons now resident in Hong Kong who may wish to make such claims.

Leung Hung, baker, was cautioned by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central yesterday for playing football in Wo d Road. Defendant said that he was not playing football but was waiting for some friends. The constable who arrested him said that he was seen kicking a ball against a wall.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- 1 Run away.
- 7 Mountain goat.
- 9 Commence.
- 10 Artist's stand.
- 11 Breaches.
- 13 Determination.
- 15 Roll.
- 16 Antelope.
- 19 Eminence.
- 22 Italian coin.
- 24 Fruit.
- 25 Elevate.
- 26 Voice.
- 27 Meat pie.

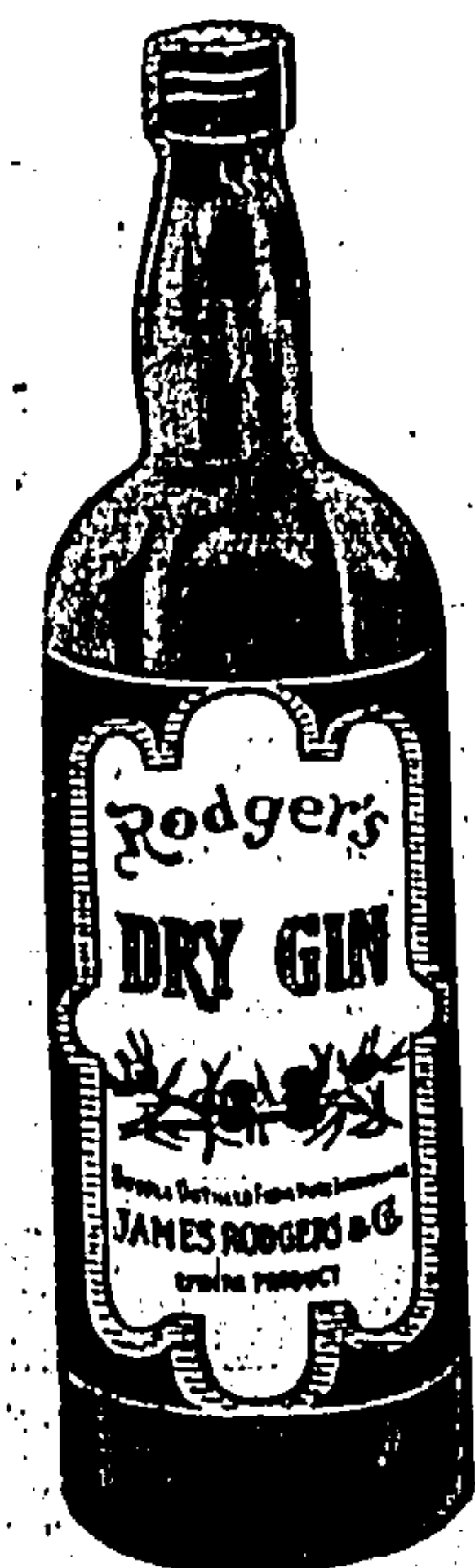
Clues Down

- 2 Rims.
- 3 Cancel.
- 4 Nice to look at.
- 5 Give up under pressure.
- 6 Assist.
- 8 Jullification.
- 12 Room.
- 13 Drives back.
- 14 Clutter.
- 17 Small fish.
- 18 Entertain.
- 20 Pluck.
- 21 Ingenious.
- 23 Lazy.

Yesterday's Crossword

Across—1 Pepper, 4 Trick, 7 Elated, 8 Spill, 10 Stir, 12 Ravaged, 15 Biped, 16 Cede, 17 Raid, 19 Alien, 20 Entile, 21 Sere, 23 Album, 24 Repeat, 25 Green, 26 Friend.

Down—1 Pleasure, 2 Prohibit, 3 Ewer, 5 Replaces, 6 Calmed, 9 Ladle, 11 Ridicule, 12 Realm, 13 Generate, 14 Deseried, 18 Antler, 22 Pear.



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DINA HOUSE

Peninsular & Oriental STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"TREVVOSE"	Shanghai	26th Dec.
"LANCASHIRE"	U.K. via Straits	28th Dec.
"TREVETHOE"	U.K. via Straits	13th Jan.
"ORMA"	Shanghai	15th Jan.
"EMPIRE BRENT"	U.K.	24th Jan.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits	13th Feb.
"DEVONSHIRE"	U.K.	13th Feb.
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	16th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	24th Feb.
"DILVARA"	U.K.	27th Feb.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"STRATHNAVER"	U.K.	24th Dec.
"LANCASHIRE"	Kure	20th Dec.
"TREVVOSE"	Genoa, London	20th Dec.
	Antwerp Rotterdam	
	(Amsterdam) via	
	Straits & Colombo	
"TREVETHOE"	Shanghai	16th Jan.
"EMPIRE BRENT"	Shanghai	25th Jan.
"DEVONSHIRE"	Kure	15th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	15th Feb.
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	23rd Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits	24th Feb.

British



India

STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

APCAR LINE

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"SANGOLA"	Calcutta via Straits	31st Dec.
"SANGOLA"	Shanghai & Amoy	13th Jan.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"SANGOLA"	Amoy & Shanghai	2nd Jan.
"SANGOLA"	Calcutta via Straits	15th Jan.

Eastern &



Australian

STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED

ARRIVALS

SHIPS	from	Due
"NELLORE"	Australia	Mid January
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S.S. "FAIRPORT"	Due 6th January
S.S. "KYSKA"	Due End January

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S.S. "FAIRPORT" about 6th January

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IVARAN LINES FAR EAST SERVICE

Expected arrivals from U.S. ATLANTIC PORTS:

m.v. "IVARAN"	expected arrive 27th December
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Loading for U.S. ATLANTIC PORTS via PANAMA:—

m.v. "IVARAN"	about 27th December
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For freight & further particulars apply:—

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Chinese Freight Agents:

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CHINA AND JAPAN LINES
"TJIMENTENG" Due from Sailing for
Shanghai 30th Dec. Manila, Tarakan,
26th Dec. Macassar Java ports
26th Dec.

"TJITALENGKA" Due from Sailing for
Macassar and Batavia, Semarang,
Java ports 30th Dec. Macassar Java ports
30th Dec.

ORIENT-JAVA-AFRICA LINE
SOUTH-ATLANTIC LINE
Due from Loading for
"STRAAT MALAKKA" In Port Manila, Singapore,
Mauritius, Lourenco
Marques, Beira,
Durban, East London,
Port Elizabeth,
Mosselbay, Capetown,
Hague, Alora, Monte-
vidéo, Santos, Rio
de Janeiro,
26th Dec.

Transshipment cargo on through bill of lading accepted for
Dar-Es-Salaam, Mombasa & Zanzibar.

"STRAAT SOENDA" South America, South Africa
23rd Jan. 1948. 8th Dec.

DELI-STRAITS-CHINA LINE
Due from Sailing for
"VAN HEUTSZ" Swatow & Amoy 24th Dec. Singapore, Penang &
Belawan Deli 9th Jan. 1948.

"HEINRICH JESSEN" In Port Sailing for
Swatow & Amoy 24th Dec.

Agents HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE
Due from Sailing for
"BREDERO" In Port Manila/Singapore/
Colombo/Port Said/
Alexandria/
Genoa/Marseilles/
Antwerp/Rotterdam/
Amsterdam/Hamburg/
Copenhagen/Göteborg/
Oslo, 24th Dec.

"LEOPOLDSKERK" Due from Loading for
Europe, first week of Jan. 1948. Manila/Singapore/
Colombo/
Port Said/Haifa/
Genoa/Marseilles/
Antwerp/Rotterdam/
Amsterdam/Hamburg/
Copenhagen/Göteborg/
Oslo, beginning of
February 1948.

"MOLENKERK" Due from Loading for
Europe on or about 1st Jan. Manila/Singapore/
Colombo/
Port Said/Haifa/
Genoa/Marseilles/
Antwerp/Rotterdam/
Amsterdam/Hamburg/
Copenhagen/Göteborg/
Oslo, Middle of Feb.

"ALPHERAT" In Port Loading for
Manila/Singapore/
Colombo/Port Said/Haifa/
Genoa/Marseilles/
Antwerp/Rotterdam/
Amsterdam/Hamburg/
Copenhagen/Göteborg/
Oslo, end of Feb.

Agents SILVER LINE LTD.
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"SILVEROAK" In Port U.S. Atlantic
Coast ports via Manila,
Singapore and Suez,
24th Dec.

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TO AND FROM PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COASTS
U.S.A. LOADING DATES

From	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast	Mid. Jan.	m.v. "TONGHAI"
Los Angeles	Late Jan.	m.v. "DONA ANICETA"

From	Date	Vessel
Pacific Coast	1st Jan.	m.v. "MANGALORE"
Los Angeles	Early Jan.	m.v. "ANDAMAN"
Los Angeles	Late Jan.	s.s. "DONA AURORA"

For	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast	Early Jan.	m.v. "ANDAMAN"
Los Angeles	Late Jan.	s.s. "DONA AURORA"

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S.S. HAI HSUAN Bangkok Dec. 31
S.S. HAI HSIN Singapore Jan. 2

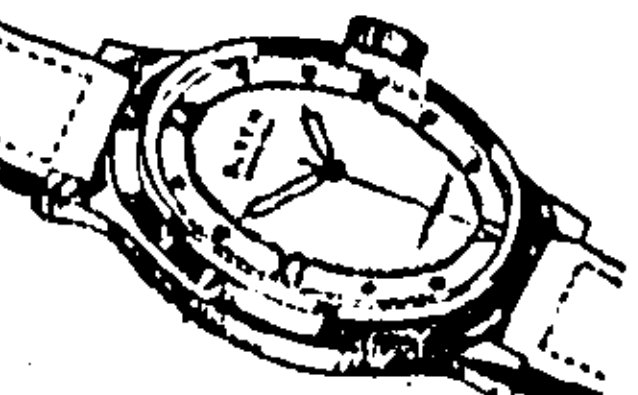
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HONG KONG, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1947.

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The following are the Hong Kong Football League Tables to date:

First Division	Second Division																																																																																																																																				
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Followers of football will be well catered for during the holidays, as in addition to the regular League games during the week the First Round of the International Charity Cup competition will be played on Christmas and Boxing Day.

On New Year's Day

An unofficial inter-club trial will be held on Club ground between teams representing the Island and Mainland. Six teams have entered the International Competition. The newcomers are Ireland and Scandinavia, both of whom have drawn byes in the preliminary round. On Christmas Day Scotland meet China, the holders, at Caroline Hill. Scotland's selectors did not have a wide choice of players but a very useful side has been chosen. Leck, of the Club, will be in goal. Blackburn, the police full back, will be in the team. He has not played much League football owing to duties but has turned out regularly in inter-division police games. Gordon, who did so well in the Shield tie the last Saturday, will occupy the pivotal position.

England And Portugal

The only junior player to gain recognition is Aikens of the R.E.M.F. who will be on the left wing. China have not yet decided on their line-up and have requested 18 players to report to the dressing room. The team will probably be composed mostly of Sing Tao and Kichner players. On Boxing Day very evenly contested game should be witnessed at Sookunpoo when the old friendly enemies England and Portugal meet. With the exception of Collico, of Police, the Portuguese team will be composed of St. Joseph's players with B. Gosano as captain. J. Brown of the Saints' juniors will probably be in goal with Mendes, who played in goal for St. Joseph's on Sunday at right half Pacheco will be seen in the attack.

Strong Side

Great pains have been taken by the English Committee in the selection of the team and though they have been hit by recent departures have decided upon a very strong side. Jones, one of the best goalkeepers in Hong Kong, will be between the sticks and though the rest of the defence is not as strong as hoped, the well balanced English attack should carry them to the next round. Sewell will lead the attack with Hamilton, his club mate, on his right and Kierman on the left. This trio is a fast and dangerous one and with the addition of two good wingers in

Fowler and Davidson will give the Portuguese defence a trying time. If all plans materialize there will be several inter-club trials next year. At a meeting on Monday it was decided that Shanghai be invited to the spring and a team be sent to Manila about the same time. "Dr. C.C. Yuen, an official of the Shanghai Football Federation, was in Hong Kong some time ago and in conversations with local officials gave an assurance that a Shanghai team would be pleased to come here during the Chinese holidays.

Macao Game

As far as Manila is concerned the P.A.A.F. are making every effort to popularise soccer in the islands and are sparing no expense to attain this object. They will most assuredly welcome a team from Hong Kong and would be prepared to pay Hong Kong a visit later in the season. The cold in Hong Kong would greatly effect the play of a team from Manila during February.

It is understood that Hong Kong has been selected as the training centre for the China Olympic soccer team. The visitors will probably be permitted to join the various Chinese Clubs and play for them in the League during their stay here.

ENGLAND:—Jones; Pope and White; Parvin, Forrow and Nassau; Fowler, Hamilton, Sewell, Kierman and Davidson.

RESERVES:—Weller, Redman, Graham and Williams.

PORTUGAL:—Brown or Mendes; Pantallon and Gosano; Pacheco, Aikens and Collico; Xavier, Gomes, Carvalho, Pereria and Xavier.

RESERVES:—Cruz, Pereira, Mallo, Rocha, Castilho.

CHINESE:—Tam Kwan-hing; Yeung Sui-lam, Tse Kam-hung, Lau Chung-seng, Soong Lin-sing, Fung Kwan-shing, Chau Man-chi, Fung Kin-cheung, Tse Kam-ho, Lai Shui-wing, Ho Ying-tan, Chan Tak-fai, Lee Bing-chui, Kwok Ying-kee and Lee Shok-yau.

QUADRANGULAR CRICKET

The following will represent the H.K.C.C. in Quadrangular Cricket Tournament against the Army on Friday and Saturday at the H.K.C.C. Play commences at 11 a.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. on Saturday. J. E. Richardson, L. F. Stokes, T. A. Pearce, L. D. Kilbee, H. Owen-Hughes, M. M. Little, O. J. Kerr, A. P. Raynor, F. Howarth, H. N. Bardell and R. W. Franklin.

SALTING FISH NOW OFFENSIVE TRADE

The trades of salting, drying or storing for wholesale purposes of fish were yesterday declared offensive trades by the Urban Council. At the motion of the Chairman, Dr. J. P. Fehly, the declaration was made an additional by-law in the Public Health (Sanitation) Ordinance, 1935. Dr. Fehly announced that the Select Committee has agreed to allow existing businesses engaged in salting, drying or storing fish for wholesale purposes to continue for three years after which they will have to move into areas approved for such trades. Meanwhile, no new licences will be issued. The Urban Council also resolved to recommend to Government to close the No. 6 Cemetery in Kap Shek. Mr. Dr. Fehly said that no graves in the cemetery, inhabitants in the neighbourhood, also could not recollect of any burials having been made there.

AIRLINE FARES RAISED

China's two airlines—China National Aviation Corporation and the Central Air Transport Corporation—announced today a 20 per cent fare increase effective on Tuesday due to the higher cost of gasoline. United



Three Rome policemen manhandle an already pummeled man who has just got back to his feet after being beaten down when police broke up a demonstration in the Piazza Colonna during the second day of the city's general strike. (A.P. Photo.)

Threat To Freedom Of The Press

London, Dec. 22. Newsprint for tightly rationed British newspapers will cost more in 1948 and supplies may have to be cut later in the year, Mr. F. B. Bishop, General Manager of the Newsprint Supply Company, warned tonight in a letter to the press.

The Government, confronted with details of the Company's dwindling stock and a "very serious" position over future supplies due to a drought in Scandinavia and reduced home production, had given an assurance that, for the present, there would be no new cut in the supplies to papers, which only a few months ago were reduced to their lowest wartime size—only four pages for most circulation dailies.

Earlier today, published evidence presented to the Royal Commission investigating the British Press quoted the Newspaper Society as declaring that "the greatest single threat to the freedom of the press is the interference of successive Governments under the plea of national necessity to ration newsprint."

This view was strongly supported by the Guild of British Newspaper Editors. Mr. Bishop called for a new drive to save waste paper, on the success of which would depend "whether a cut in consumption at some later date in 1948 can be averted."

DAY TOO LATE

Devonport, Dec. 23. The British destroyers Contest and Cockade, which helped to quell disorders at Aden early in December, are due to arrive in home ports on Boxing Day. Because their commanding officers, Lt. G. T. S. Gray R.N. of Contest and Lt. Cdr. Jack B. Cox R.N. in Cockade had sent landing parties to assist the colony's garrison, the ships were detained and officers and men missed the opportunity of being home for Christmas. They have been serving in Eastern waters with the 8th Destroyer Flotilla, and the ships' companies include men who are due to be released from the Navy early in the New Year. —Reuter.

TREVESSA TROPHY

Annual Race By Ships' Boats

An interesting event for the Christmas Season now being organised is the race for the Trevesa Trophy, which will take place at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club at Kellett Island on Sunday afternoon, 28.

The Trophy consists of a silver model of the life boat in which the Master and Crew of the S.S. "Trevesa" sailed across the Southern Ocean after their ship had been sunk in heavy weather. This Trophy is held in the Hong Kong office of the owners or agents of the winning vessel until the next race.

It is very fortunate that this Trophy was one of the few which survived the war and has now been completely repaired and cleaned up. The Trophy is raced for annually by ships' life-boats, and all vessels in port are invited to enter as many boats as they can. Last year's race, the first held since the war, was run over a 3½ mile course and was won by a boat from the S.S. "Empire Witham" (Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.) with Mr. Munro as coxswain after a close race with eight other boats.

It is hoped that this year's race will have a much larger field. This year's course is from Lyemun Beacon, round Kowloon Rock, leaving "Changai Rock" to port and then to the finishing line at Kellett Island, a distance of about five miles. With the present prevailing wind, this should make a fast race.

Fully Equipped

The boats may be rowed or sailed or both at the same time, but sails must be down at the start. All boats entering must be fully equipped with all the gear called for by the Ministry of Transport or other National Authority, but need not carry radio equipment or provisions. Entries will be accepted up to the time of start and boats should, if possible, make their own way there. Should they not be possible, however, they should get in touch with Mr. Beeching, 80311, who will endeavour to assist them.

Unfortunately, last year's winner will not be in port to defend the Trophy nor to receive the handsome ebony and silver shield which will constitute her laurels for last Christmas' race. Spectators are promised a fine sight when the dozen or more lifeboats, small boats capable of standing any weather, with their colourful sails, some white, yellow or red, come charging down towards the finish.

Association President In Court

The Hui-fung, 40, President of the Hong Kong & Kowloon Sauce & Preserved Fruits Association, 354 Prince Edward Road, who was remanded by Mr. F. X. d'Almada at Central Court on Saturday, appeared before Mr. W. H. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday on the charge of fraudulent conversion of \$3,304 received by him for, or on account of, Cheng Kin-keet, of Hing Chun Yuen Co. on Sept. 27.

Det. Sub-Inspector V. M. Morrison, applying for a week's formal remand, said that a large number of firms and large sums of money were involved. Investigations were not yet completed. On the application of Mr. C. A. Sutherland Russ, defendant was granted bail in the sums of \$7,000 cash and \$3,000 surety.

Snatcher Chased

At 2.50 p.m. on Dec. 19, Mrs. Lily Gerver (25), was walking along Bute Street when, near Sai Yeung Choi Street, a man came up from behind her and attempted to snatch a gold wrist-chain from her left wrist. When Mrs. Gerver struggled with him, the man gave up the attempt and walked away. During the struggle, the chain was broken and Mrs. Gerver's wrist slightly scratched. Mrs. Gerver immediately went back to her home at 157 Prince Edward Road third floor, where she told her husband, Mr. Dick Gerver (a BOAC signal clerk). They went back to the scene of the incident and there saw the man. He also saw them coming and began to run. Mr. Gerver gave chase, caught his wife's assailant and handed him over to PC 212, who came upon the scene.

When the snatcher, Chung Ching-hoi (20), appeared before Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday, these facts were related by Sub-Inspector J. S. Howarth, who charged Chung with attempted larceny from the person. Chung was sentenced to one year's hard labour.

20-OZ. BABY GIRL BORN

Minneapolis, Dec. 23. Physicians today disclosed the birth of a 20-ounce girl but held little hope that she would survive. The child, perfectly formed and measuring only 11 inches, was born on Dec. 6 at Fairview Hospital, but the birth was not disclosed at the time.

Dr. Melvin P. Baken, who delivered the girl, said she had gained four inches since birth. —United Press.

SCHOOLS FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(By E. D.)

With the Schools' Holidays here and the first half of the season over, I intend this week to review the league as a whole.

Competition has been keen. Apart from the Senior League, where La Salle appear to be away on their own (although on points Queen's are level at the moment), it is impossible to forecast the ultimate league winners. It seems quite on the cards that those two teams who are reach that game unbeaten, which case it should be an excellent finish to the season. In the Junior Leagues, things are vastly different. In both A and B divisions there are three teams close together and in A division there is the intriguing situation that, of the three teams—E.K.A.M., Wanlao A.M. and St. Joseph's—each of the three has been beaten once only and on each occasion by one of the other two. E.K.A.M. have beaten St. Joseph's, who have beaten Wanlao, who have beaten E.K.A.M.—a perfect example of why one should never go on form in forecasting results.

The games have been keenly contested and thanks to the co-operation of the H.K.F.A. in providing grounds and referees, the standard of play is I think improving. After such a long break it was only to be expected that there would be some difficulties and misunderstandings, but those are being smoothed out. In this connection I feel special tribute should be paid to the referees who give up their Sunday mornings to schools' football.

There have been very few cases of intentional rough play and the boys learn more of the rules, or, rather, how to interpret them, it should disappear altogether.

DEATH PENALTY DEMANDED

Frankfurt, Dec. 22. The chief prosecution demanded the death penalty for 19 German officials of the Nordhausen concentration camp accused of killing hundreds of inmates by brutal and inhuman treatment during today's sitting of a United States military tribunal at Dachau.

The Nordhausen camp in Thuringia was associated with a large-scale underground plant for the making of V-2 rocket projectiles.

Colonel William Herman, the prosecutor, said that hundreds died through torture, starvation and other ill-treatment to make them increase production of rockets to be sent against London. Evidence was given that Otto Brinkmann, former SS guard at the camp, made a starved Polish prisoner eat the flesh of human corpses and then killed him for cannibalism. Brinkmann was also said to have ordered that 1,347 corpses be drenched with petrol and set alight. The verdicts in this trial, the eleventh and last concentration camp trial scheduled within the American Zone, are expected before the end of the month. —Reuter.

On Nov. 18, Leung Kam-hoi, aged 10, snatched the watch of A. B. Roger of H.M.S. London while he was travelling in a "rickshaw" in Hennessy Road. Yesterday morning he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment at Central by Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

H.K. Bank On List Of Big-Traders

Washington, Dec. 23. The Hong Kong Bank of Hong Kong, named in holding 270,000 bushels of wheat on speculative account, was among the foreign names of traders included in the 711 big trader list released by Secretary of Agriculture Anderson today. Edwin W. Pauley was the only active Government official on the partial list. Anderson promised additional lists from time to time. It was a Senatorial investigation of Pauley, special assistant to Secretary of the Army Royal, that led to Congressional action authorizing the revelation of names of traders to help in the hunt for those reportedly profiting in grain speculation. Anderson's report revealed a rapid increase in the number of acknowledged large speculators on the commodity markets during the past year. In October last year there were 66 of them listed, but by the same month this year there were 230. —Associated Press.



Dear Santa claus,
Please bring Mummy
and Daddy, Billy and me
some of those lovely things
in Dragon Seed.
Better go quickly, be-
cause every body wants them.
With love, Betty.

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